



Early Bible Interpretations  
By Paramhansa Yogananda,  
From His East-West Magazine, starting 1932





## The Second Coming of Christ: Introduction

### **Three-fold Meaning of the Hindu and Christian Bibles**

*Intuitively Perceived Spiritual Interpretation  
of Words Spoken by Jesus Christ*

(To be studied every day conscientiously and meditated upon by true Christians, true devotees of God, and Yogodans. These truths are found in meditation and those who want to perceive the Second Coming of Christ must meditate upon them.)

*Universal Christ-Consciousness appeared in the vehicle of Jesus, and now through Yogoda Self-Realization, and these intuitively received interpretations of the Scriptures, the Christ-Consciousness is coming a second time to manifest through the consciousness of every true Yogodan. "All those who received Him, to them gave He the power to become the Sons of God."*

As a small cup cannot hold an ocean within it, no matter how willing it may be to do so, likewise the cup of material human consciousness cannot grasp the universal Christ Consciousness, no matter how desirous it is; but when the student, by the Yogoda method of Meditation and Concentration, enlarges the caliber of his consciousness to Omniscience, he can hold the universal consciousness in all atoms. (Christ Consciousness) within his own. This is what is meant by “Received Him.” Thus, according to Jesus, all souls who can actually find their souls one with Christ Consciousness, by intuitive Self-Realization, can be called “Sons of God.”

### **Three-fold Meaning of the Hindu and Christian Bibles**

All Oriental Scriptures, such as the Bhagavad Gita, or the Hindu Bible, and the Christian Bible, have a three-fold meaning. In other words, the Scriptures deal with the three factors of human beings, namely, the material, the mental, and the spiritual. Hence, all true Scriptures have been so written that they serve to be beneficial to the body, mind, and soul of man. True Scriptures are like the wells of Divine waters, which can quench the three-fold material, mental, and spiritual thirsts of man. In addition, the Scriptures, in order to be worthwhile, should really help the business man, the mental man, and the spiritual man. Although both the material and the psychological interpretations of the Scriptures are necessary, it should be remembered that the scriptural authors undertook with great pains to point out to man that the spiritual interpretations are of supreme importance to him.

A materially or intellectually successful man may not be the truly, scientifically successful man who makes a perfect success of life; whereas, a spiritual man is the happy “all-round” man, who is healthy, intellectual, contented, and truly prosperous, with all-satisfying wisdom. Since by intuition the spiritual authors first sought to make man primarily spiritual, I give the spiritual interpretation with the psychological and material interpretations interwoven. These interpretations will help alike the spiritual aspirant, the intellectual man, and the business man.



John 6:27

## “Labor Not for the Meat Which Perisheth”

Labor not for the meat which perisheth (do not devote all your energies simply to the maintenance of the physical body, for even the most scientifically balanced diet can nourish the body only for a limited time) but for that meat (but seek the infinite source, the cosmic energy and life current) which endureth unto everlasting life, (which can spiritualize the material forces into deathless or changeless energy, serviceable to the soul eternally) which the son of man (the human body which comes from another human body) shall give unto you: (because it contains divine possibilities within it) for Him hath God the Father sealed (God the creator has stored his immortal energy in man and has labeled or marked it as the storage battery of His own cosmic design. One can recharge his body-cells from within by knowing the mechanism of the body-battery and its secret storehouse of cosmic current)–S.Y.



Luke 2:49

## **“I Must be About My Father’s Business”**

“And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?”

The above depicts the proper Divine attitude of Jesus to His parents. In the above statement, the perfect life of Jesus brings forth a perfect utterance as to how a Divine child, consecrated to serve humanity, should behave. Jesus hints that it is the highest duty of parents not to worry about a Divine child like Jesus, who was protected by the King of Kings. He implies also that the highest duty of the son was to look after the celestial business of spreading the Kingdom of the Heavenly Father. He implied that duty to our Heavenly Father comes first and foremost and that duty to parents, although important, is secondary.

Jesus knew that parental love and affection, being blind, might demand from Him greater attention to His earthly father’s business than to His Heavenly Father’s business, for which He came on earth. He also here signifies to His parents that they should know, and at the same time wish for Him to be busy with His Heavenly Father’s business. Since parental and filial relationships are brought about by God, parents should first teach their children that it is good to be proficient in God’s business.

The above saying was the first hint by Jesus to His parents as to what they would have to expect, and about what His life was going to be. As all noble parents are lovers of God and of His business, so they should wish the first interest of their children to be in God’s business. All parents should start their children on the right road in life by making them first proficient in

contacting God, and in doing all things with God Consciousness. A life guided by God's inner, intuitive direction can be successful, healthy, and complete only when activity is balanced with wisdom and happiness.

The ordinary man thinks that this world, his family, and his work are his business, but the spiritual man knows that parents, children, family ties, the business world, and all else are God's business. He knows that everyone should help to maintain a world by love and service compelled and actuated by instinctive blood-ties. Hence, all business should be spiritualized; that is, everything should be done with the consciousness of God within, and man should try to please God by harmonizing all things with His ideals.

The Hindu scriptures say that when one duty conflicts with another, then it is not duty, but something to be avoided. Religious duties should not conflict with the duties of business; neither should duty to business conflict with spiritual duties. When such conflict occurs, the spiritual duty is incomplete and should be modified. Business duties also should be revised when they militate against spiritual duties. Spiritual and material duties should work together like two stallions, pulling the car of life harmoniously and uniformly to one happy goal.

A successful life, therefore, must be begun with spiritual culture first, for all material and moral actions are governed by spiritual laws. All business must first conform with God's business of Divine laws in order to be of lasting benefit to mankind. Any money-making business which caters only to human luxury, and false or evil propensities, is bound to be destroyed by the workings of the Divine law of the survival of the fittest. The business which does harm to the real spiritual comfort of people is not doing real service, and is bound to meet with destruction because of the very nature of its activities.



Matthew 3:13

## The Baptism of Jesus Christ, Part 1

Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him: And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

### **Intuitional Interpretation of Yogoda, Hindu, and Christian Baptism**

The original ceremony of baptism by water came from India. Baptism means immersion in water in order to cleanse or purify. Purification of the body should precede the purification of the mind. Hence, all souls who desired to begin living the spiritual life had to purify their bodies. “Cleanliness is next to Godliness,” but baptism of the body, unless followed by baptism of the mind, becomes practically meaningless. If we bathe and thus purify our bodies, we will find that our mind will temporarily become purified, but unless we change our souls’ wickedness by calmness and meditation, and constant spiritual vigilance, we will remain the same old devils with bad habits in spite of the temporary purifying effect of the water on our bodies. To illustrate this metaphorically: A Hindu saint said to his would-be disciple, “Son, it is necessary to bathe in the Ganges to purify the

mind from sin. The sins will leave you temporarily while you bathe in the holy waters; but they will wait for you in the trees skirting the Ganges, and as soon as you come out of the sacred influence of the holy water, they will again jump on you.”

It must be remembered, however, that bodily baptism by water has its good points. The custom in India is to take spiritual lessons from a holy man only immediately after bathing. To take spiritual lessons with a sweaty, unclean body is not effective. The Baptists do well to immerse their initiates in water, but the ceremony of immersion without following it up with continued spiritual lessons in meditation and God-contact is of little value.

### **Sprinkling of Water on Head**

The aristocratic, modern way of baptism consists in sprinkling water on the head. This is all that is left of the original custom of purifying the body by water. Baptism by the sprinkling of water may be all right for most civilized people, for they usually bathe themselves daily. Then, too, immersion of initiates in water may be unnecessary if they are mentally evolved, but sprinkling of water on the head of evolved people is unnecessary, unless this is done only out of respect to the ancient, baptismal ceremonies.

### **Baptism of Jesus**

It is evident that Jesus, although he was so evolved, did not fail to go into the water. He did not fully immerse, for the River Jordan was practically dry at that time. Thus it is all right for spiritually-minded people to bathe before being baptized, but it is also true that in modern America many aristocratic people would refuse to be baptized if they had the prospect of a second bath in the church. They would rather forego entering Heaven than be publicly immersed in water. For such people, spiritual instruction, without this second bath, is all right.

Another important matter in connection with the baptism of Jesus Christ is that He insisted on being baptized by John, who in self-realization was far inferior to Him. John said he was not worthy to unloose the latchet of the shoes of Jesus, and that he baptized only with water, while Jesus baptized with Spirit. Alas, modern baptism has become baptism by water



only. Yogoda methods are showing the real way of baptizing self with Spirit and ultimate wisdom. Feeling his spiritual inferiority, John wondered why Jesus wanted to be baptized with water. This action of Jesus distinctly demonstrated the ancient, pre-Christian, Hindu custom and the real spiritual way, which every God-aspirant should follow.

The method of finding God is different from the methods demanded by most colleges for any kind of specific training. Even in medical training, the student never learns if he roams from college to college, joining different medical institutions, and listening to a few lectures, but without going through intensive training in materia media, physiology, dissection, and other studies in one college. Also, it is true that a student cannot join all the universities at the same time.

A student should follow one course in one college until he receives a certificate that he has completed certain studies, but alas, in spiritual denominations even the loyalty the usual intellectual college expects is not given to the denomination by the aspirant, nor is the time necessary for Self-Realization given to the practice of the spiritual lessons by thousands of students in the Western world. Such people continue taking lessons from any new, good, bad, or indifferent teachers, who happen to come to town and advertise. I say that people should discriminate between the so-called teacher who uses religion only to make money or just a living and the real teacher who may use business methods in his religion in order to serve his brethren with real spirituality.

It is extremely necessary to remember that in the beginning it is wise to compare many spiritual paths and teachers, but when the real GURU (Preceptor) and the real teaching is found, then the restless searching must cease. The thirsty one should not keep seeking wells, but should go to the best well and daily drink its nectar. That is why in India, in the beginning we seek many until we find the right path, and the right master, and then remain loyal to him through death and eternity, until final emancipation.

## **Guru and Teacher**

We can have many teachers first, but only one GURU, and no more teachers afterwards. Teachers call those who come to learn from them *students*, but a GURU calls the spiritual aspirant who comes to him a *disciple*. Jesus himself said, "None cometh unto the Father but by me." This

signifies that human souls are mostly truant children of God roaming away from Him in the wilderness of suffering. Such souls are impelled by the scourge of sorrow to have faint glimpses of their lost home of spiritual blessedness. They begin to long for God, and inwardly pray for a way out of the conundrum of life. Then when the prayers of such errant children become deep and strong enough, God is touched and sends help. It is then that the One Father of All sends a superman on earth to give help to the lost seeking souls. Such a man, ordained by God, to help the individual in response to deep prayer, is not an ordinary teacher, but a GURU or a vehicle, whose body, speech, mind, and spirituality God Himself uses to bring the lost souls back to the Home of Immortality.

In the Hindu scriptures and “Whispers from Eternity” it is written: “As a naughty baby, I cried for my Mother Divine, and she came to me as my GURU. My Guru, I found Thee in response to my soul-cries. If all the gods are displeased and yet, O Guru, if Thou art pleased, I am safe in the fortress of Thy pleasure; but if all the gods protect me by the parapets of their blessings, and yet I receive not Thy benedictions, I am an orphan, left to pine spiritually in the ruins of Thy displeasure. Together, Guru and Disciple, we will fly to His Shores, and then we will smash our planes of finitude forever and vanish in our Infinite Life.”

The above conception of Guru and Disciple depicts the only real way to retrace the truant soul’s footsteps back to God. This Guru and Disciple relationship is not the enslaving relationship between the blind church or temple members and an ignorant so-called priest of a temple or church, elected, not by God, but by the temple or church organization, or by a higher church dignitary, honored by orthodox followers, but unknown to God.

### **Freedom of Will, and Obedience**

My Guru said to me: “Allow me to discipline you, for freedom of will consists not in doing things according to the dictates of prenatal or postnatal habits or mental whims, but according to the suggestions of wisdom and free choice.” He continued, “If you tune in your will with mine, you will find freedom. Formerly, my will was guided by habits, but when I tuned it in with the God-guided and Wisdom-guided will of my Guru, I found freedom.”

To tune in with a soul whose will is guided by wisdom is to find freedom of will. Most teachers who slavishly control their students after the pattern of dogmatic teachings, destroy the power of free will in them, but obedience to a Guru does not produce spiritual blindness in the disciple. On the contrary, it develops his third eye of wisdom and intuition. Most teachers want their students to see through the teacher's eyes, but a Guru disciplines the disciple only until he can guide himself through wisdom. A Guru (a Preceptor) is sent by God.

If a disciple, after following a Guru for a long time, should spurn him, then he actually spurns the help sent by God. A Guru is not a help for this life only. He also makes a spiritual soul-contact with the disciple, and says, "Let our friendship be eternal, and let us help each other through incarnations until we are both completely emancipated in spirit. Sometimes, likewise, an advanced disciple can help a Guru, and vice versa. Such friendship is not based on any selfish consideration or on any condition. Such Divine friendship and perpetual good-will expressed between two or more souls gives birth to the ever-pure, unselfish, all-emancipating Divine Love. My Master said to me, "I will be your friend from now until Eternity, no matter whether you are on the lowest mental plane or on the highest plane of wisdom. I will be your friend if ever you should err, for then you will need my friendship more than at any other time."

When I accepted my Master's unconditional friendship, he said, "Will you be my friend under all circumstances? Will you protect me in my highest or in my lowest strata of mind?" I was amazed—I was stupefied, for how could I dream of my Master being in the lowest strata, but until I vowed to be his friend always, under all circumstances, he did not rest. He was gladdened when I said, "I will be thine always."

It was then, after this amazing spiritual compact, that I understood the significance of a Guru, and really, I never found complete satisfaction, comfort, and God-consciousness until I tuned myself in with the Divine consciousness of my Master.

Jesus knew of above law of emancipation. He must have found in John his reincarnated Guru. (A Guru, although inferior in spiritual quality, is a Guru just the same, a vehicle of God always) That is why Jesus insisted on being baptized by John the Baptist. Jesus also had spoken of John the Baptist as the reincarnated prophet, Elias (Elijah). Next, in connection with the baptism of Jesus Christ, it is very important to remember the spiritual

baptism and the spiritual experiences of Jesus which followed his physical baptism with water by John.

This will be explained further in the next issue of East-West.



## **The Baptism of Jesus Christ, Part 2**

Before I proceed to describe the spiritual experiences of Jesus Christ after his initiation by John, I must tell a few things more about baptism.

“Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness.”

The Sanskrit Scriptures have a statement exactly parallel to this, which says of Jesus, “There are many sages with many wisdoms with their scriptural and spiritual interpretations, apparently contradictory, but the real secret of religion is hidden in a cave.”

The path followed by a man of self-realization is the path to be followed by any spiritual aspirant. A scripture, no matter what records of spiritual truths it contains in its bosom, is not as useful as a saint, who is veritably a walking, talking, living scripture. There is a vast difference between the powerful sulphuric acid in a bottle and the mere statement of its formula as  $H_2SO_4$ . Neither the formula itself, nor the description of the power of sulphuric acid in a book can ever describe its burning, vital quality. Truths of S-r are like little insignificant seeds, but their power and wisdom-yielding qualities are truly felt when they are seen to grow into huge trees in the gardens of the self-realization of saints,—trees laden with the fruits of Divine Love.

## **Why a Guru Is Necessary**

We meet little teachers in the beginning through our vague desires to know truth. But the GURU (or Preceptor) is the living embodiment of scriptural truths and is the agent of salvation appointed by God in response to a devotee's demands for release from all the bondage of matter. It is very difficult to choose the right path from the many religious paths and varied religious opinions. Most people who wander from church to church seeking intellectual inspiration never find God, for intellectual inspiration is necessary only until one begins to "drink" God. Otherwise, intellectual inspiration (when it forgets to taste God) is detrimental to self-realization. It is more easy to follow a living, breathing, talking man (who lives truth) than a mute scripture. If a saint has reached his goal, whether by the shorter Yoga route, or by the long-winded spiritual-prayer way, he experiences actual self-realization. Anyone following him certainly would reach the goal by using either method. Unlike ordinary prayers, real prayers, which alone can bring conscious response from God, must be offered in meditation, intensely and for many hours continuously until Divine response comes.

## **The Signs of a Guru**

The signs of a GURU are as follows: his eyes are still and unwinking whenever he wants them to be so; by the practice of Yoga his breath is quiet without his forcibly holding it in his lungs; his mind is calm without effort. If a man has eyelids that blink continually and lungs acting like bellows all the time, and a mind always restless like a butterfly, and he keeps on telling you he is in cosmic consciousness, laugh at him. Just as a man cannot pretend that he is sleeping while he continues to run, so one with restless eyes, breath, and mind cannot convince you, who know better, that he is in cosmic consciousness. Just as sleep manifests in the body by certain physiological changes, so the muscles, eyes, breath, all usually become still during cosmic consciousness. No GURU can be developed alone by years of study in the intellectual factory of a theological seminary, which deems it has attained its ends when it confers B.D. or D.D. degrees. Such titles can be won by men of good memory, but character, self-control, and intuition can be developed only by knowledge of advanced psycho-physical methods of self-realization and deep daily meditation.

## **Jesus and His Disciples**

Jesus and His disciples were products of unceasing meditation and intuitive devotion, and not merely results of intellectual theological seminaries.

Most Christian Churches today have wandered away from the path of self-realization and are satisfied with sermons, ceremonies, organizations, and festivities. The complete revival and restoration of Christian Churches can be effected only by discarding the oft-repeated theoretical sermons and too-frequently changing psycho-physical ceremonies, and replacing them with added concentration during church services on the part of the members;—they should concentrate more and more on perfect stillness in both the physical and mental realms. For stillness and peace are the real temples wherein God must often visit His devotees.

## **Secret of Religion**

The secret of true religion lies in the cave of stillness, in the cave of wisdom, in the cave of the spiritual eye. By concentrating on the point between the eyebrows and delving into the depths of quiet, one can find answers to all the religious queries of the heart. A disciple should tune in with the will of his GURU. Such tuning in of your habit-led and whim-guided will with the wisdom-guided will of your GURU is far different from mechanical obedience to an unspiritual guide, no matter whether he is traditionally, religiously, or socially elected. To follow the blind unthinkingly is to fall with them into the ditch of ignorance completely. To follow the awakened, if you are blind, is to reach the goal without danger. How can you take away the blot from your brother's eyes if there is still a blot in your own?

## **Freedom of Will**

Very few people truly know what freedom of will means. To be compelled to do things by the dictates of your own instincts and habits is not freedom. To be good because you have been so for a long time and to refrain from evil because you are accustomed to do so is not freedom. When your will is perfectly free to choose good instead of evil anytime, anywhere, because you really feel good, you will know real happiness: then indeed are

you free. Evil gives only sorrow. When the influences of heredity, prenatal and postnatal habits, family, social, and world environment, all cease to influence your judgment—when you can act, guided only by your highest inner intuitive discrimination—then only are you free. Until then, the way to all righteousness lies in tuning in your whim-guided will with the wisdom-guided will of your GURU. Harnessing your will to wisdom, you will cease to be swayed by prejudice and error, for you will then always be guided by righteousness.

### **Find and Cling to Your GURU**

Hence, the first requisite in your spiritual path lies not entirely in going to church services and being a passive member, satisfied merely with listening to sermons, but also in finding your spiritual GURU who will discipline you and take a personal interest in your spiritual welfare and lead you as far along the spiritual path as you wish to go. Having found him, follow him closely, obey him with intelligent devotion, and practice what he teaches you; thus ultimately you will attain your highest goal.

### **The Baptism of Jesus by Water and by the Holy Ghost**

The gospel tells us that John the Baptist had said to the people, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He that cometh after me is mightier than I whose shoes I am not worthy to bear. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire.” Jesus, being high in spiritual advancement, obeyed the law of temporary purity signified by baptism by water. But immediately following His baptism by water, He was also baptized by the Spirit. The real, advanced GURU asks his disciple first to bathe his body with water, and then after the body feels the influence of temporary cleanliness and purity, he baptizes him with Spirit. But sometimes it has happened that when the disciple is further advance, as Jesus was, and the GURU, like John the Baptist, not so far advanced, then the Spirit of God uses the Holy Ghost to baptize the advanced disciple through the medium of the divine agent, the GURU, even though he is less advanced in spirituality than his disciple. The GURU must be wise, but sometimes a GURU of past incarnations is in this life less advanced in wisdom than the disciple. Sometimes it is given him to redeem a disciple more spiritually advanced than himself. A GURU, being the agent of salvation appointed by God, must



take the disciple through successive incarnations, if necessary, until complete salvation of the disciple is reached. A great secret of understanding lies in the reason for the less advanced GURU, John, initiating as his disciple the so greatly-advanced Savior of mankind—Jesus. In his past incarnations John the Baptist had been appointed as the divine agent to be the original GURU of Jesus. In the dim past, when John was first sent by God as the GURU of Jesus in response to His prayers, the GURU-consciousness of John was more advanced than the disciple-consciousness of Jesus. At that time the souls of John the Baptist and of Jesus were eternally bound together by the law of unconditional divine friendship, and both at this long-ago first meeting as GURU and disciple had made the resolution, “We will be friends forever, striving for one another’s perfection until both of us redeem our omnipresence, now locked behind the bars of flesh.” So as time went one and many incarnations passed, by a superior effort, the soul of Jesus advanced further than did the soul of John. Jesus knew that the soul of the prophet Elias (or Elijah) was His GURU of former incarnations, and that it had reincarnated in the body of John the Baptist. The prophet Elias, who was much more highly advanced than Jesus when He first became his disciple, later on, through the irony of his own Karmic law (actions of past lives), had lessened in spirituality, and thus had the power to baptize with water only. By intuition John the Baptist knew of the coming of Jesus Christ, yet having less spirituality for a time he forgot he was once Elias. After the baptism of Jesus, John was informed of this fact, “For Elias is come already.” But John the Baptist knew that Jesus, though now so far advanced as to become the Redeemer of the World, was his disciple of former incarnations, and thus he predicted, “I indeed baptize you with water, but One mightier than I cometh, the latchet of Whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire.” Jesus was now more advanced than John the Baptist, yet He accepted him as His GURU of former incarnations—the agent first sent by God to enter with Him into this spiritual, divine covenant and this divinely ordained friendship. “We will be divine friends forever until our souls by mutual help and the lasting goodwill of many incarnations break the bubble-walls of caging desires and set free our imprisoned omnipresence to become one with the sea of Infinitude.” This is why Jesus said, “Suffer it to be so now, for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness,” and why He chose to be baptized by John with water according to the ancient custom. It is very interesting then to note how the Spirit of God used the Holy Ghost for the spiritual baptism of Jesus.

## **True and False GURUS**

In India real Gurus know not only how to baptize with water but also with Spirit, or the Holy Ghost. But alas! Many Hindus in their temples, and many Christians in their churches, are baptized only with water, temporarily experiencing good physical baptism, but knowing and perceiving nothing of those marvelous soul-renewing experiences of spiritual baptism. Ministers in churches and priests in temples are oftentimes chosen only by virtue of their intellectual study of the scriptures, and sacerdotal authority conferred on them by ceremonies, performed by formally higher spiritual authority. But real ministers and priests who are fit to be GURUS train first their inner selves in the theological school of intuition and meditation. They must spiritually baptize themselves first before they can aspire to baptize others at all. They teach their disciples not for mundane gains, but, being impelled by God, they baptize them spiritually. It is admirable to lecture and teach good principles, but without becoming a real GURU one cannot redeem souls, nor should he accept others as disciples until he has progressed far himself. Once the true relationship of GURU and disciple is established there will be no more blind spiritual gropings, roamings, or partings because of admonition on the part of the GURU, or for any other reason. Usually there is instantaneous recognition between GURU and disciple, but sometimes it takes long to remember consciously that past close friendship, or to recognize the forgotten memory of past incarnations, so long buried beneath ash-heaps of ignorance.

It is said that one time a preacher of the “Ballyhoo” type somehow managed to force himself into heaven. Surprised at not being profusely welcomed, he said, “Don’t you know me, God? I introduced you and your son, Jesus, in the biggest auditoriums on earth.” God and Jesus replied in unison, “You may have introduced us, but we did not know anything about it.” The preacher, growing very angry, exclaimed, “Why, this is outrageous. I have sent souls to Heaven by the car-loads. It must by this time be getting packed tight with souls sent by me.” Then God replied, “You managed to start them alright on their way, but none of them arrived.” You may be told by ignorant priests and ministers that they will send you to Heaven, and you may blindly believe this to be so, but you cannot ever reach there without true meditation.

Know also that one cannot be a GURU by self-choice; he must be ordained to serve and save others by a real GURU, or else he must hear in

reality the voice of God asking him to redeem others. Many become self-appointed GURUS after reading a few occult books and listening to the voice of their own misguided imagination or their falsely imaginative subconscious mind.

## **The Many Kinds of Baptism Described**

If you bathe every day and meditate immediately thereafter (if you are near a river or a lake surrounded by God's scenic grandeur and you bathe in them with the consciousness of purity), then you will feel the power of baptism by water. Water opens the pores of the skin, letting out the disturbing body-poisons, calming and soothing the circulatory system.

### **Baptism by Water**

Water cools the nerve-endings and sends reports of cool sensations throughout the vital centers, balancing evenly all the vital energies. All life came primarily from energy—then from nebulae, then from water. All seeds of life are irrevocably connected with water. Physical life cannot exist without it.

### **Baptism by Feeling**

If you love poetry and are much in the company of a great poet, he will baptize you with those clean, wholesome feelings and the appreciation of good in everything which are aroused always by good poesy. Such baptism by feeling makes one imaginative and sympathetic.

### **Baptism by Moral Consciousness or Self-control**

If you associate long with men of high morality and self-control, you will feel automatically an influence of moral consciousness and self-control in your life.

## **Business Baptism**

If purposely and attentively you associate with great creative business minds, you will be baptized or saturated with the consciousness of creative business.

## **Baptism by the Holy Ghost**

The human body is a collective vibration of grossly stirring atoms and electrons and intelligent life force (finer than electrons). The soul, a reflection of spirit, while dwelling within it, cannot remember its omnipresent state. But by meditation one can hear the vibration of the body by closing the ears—as taught in the Yogoda fifth lesson—and then tune it in with the cosmic mind which emanates from the vibration of all atoms and life force. The Christian Bible says, “God is the Word,”—Cosmic, intelligent, sounding vibration). Sage Patanjali, greatest of Hindu Yogis, says, “The Spirit, God the Father or Iswara, manifests Himself as the cosmic vibration, of matter.” “The Spirit was made flesh,”—for the intelligent spirit materializes itself into gross flesh by changing its rate of vibration. Cosmic intelligence becomes cosmic intelligent motion, or vibration, which changes into cosmic energy. This intelligent cosmic energy changes into electrons and atoms. Electrons and atoms change into gas, sometimes known as cosmic nebulae. Cosmic nebulae, or masses of diffused gaseous matter change into water. Water changes into solid matter. Man’s body is a part of this variously divided matter. In cosmic vibration all things are one; but when cosmic vibration becomes frozen into matter, then it becomes many. So man’s body, being separated from cosmic vibration, again must retrace the various states of higher vibrations in order to lift his consciousness from the vibrations of breath, heart, and circulation to the vibrating sound emanating from cosmic life force and all atoms. With closed eyes, one can feel his consciousness limited by feelings of the flesh and by the sounds of breath, heart, and circulation. But by deep meditation, as taught in the Yogoda fifth lesson, the Yogoda student can hear the voice of cosmic sound, emanating from all atoms and sparks of cosmic energy. By listening to this omnipresent sound, the consciousness of the body-caged soul begins gradually to spread itself from the limitations of the body into omnipresence. One listening to this cosmic sound will find his consciousness spreading with it to limitlessness. This cosmic sound, emanating from cosmic vibration, is called the “Holy Ghost.” Ghost signifies an intelligent,

invisible, conscious force, or intelligent cosmic vibration. It is holy because the emanent (outflowing) consciousness of God the Father, or Christ intelligence, guides it to create all finite matter. The ancients, not versed in the polished language of modern times, used "Holy Ghost" and "Word" for Intelligent Cosmic Vibration, which is the first materialization of God the Father in matter. The Hindus speak of this "Holy Ghost" as the "Aum." "A" stands for "Akar" or creative vibration; "U" for "Ukar" or preservative vibration; and "M" for "Makar" or destructive vibration. The storm-roar of the sea creates the waves, preserves them for some time as larger or smaller waves, and then dissolves them. So the cosmic sound of Aum or Holy Ghost creates all things as Nebulae, preserves them in the forms of the present cosmos and worlds, and ultimately it will dissolve all things in the bosom-sea of God. But this cosmic dissolution is sometimes only partial and temporary, and again sometimes it is complete and for a long time. In the partial temporary dissolution, portions only of matter and worlds are dissolved; but in complete dissolution the entire system of universes, all stars and planets, all things are dissolved. But the dissolving of all creation is impossible until all souls cease to desire anything at all and thus become fully emancipated in God. Unredeemed souls desire life, and with it they desire the earth, the sky, and its starry beauties. So, in order to fulfill our desire for children, souls come on earth as fleshly human beings. Aum has to create the entire universe at the behest of God the Father. Because of the endless rise and dissolution of the desires of creatures, their universe is endlessly being dissolved and recreated again.

Hence, baptism by the Holy Ghost means first the dissolution of all wrong desires by good desires, and then the conquering of all good desires by an only desire for the blessed contact of God. To know God is not the negation of all desires, but instead their complete fulfillment. Men of the world strive wrongly to fulfill desires by forgetting to distinguish between those of the world and those of the soul. Just as by feeding somebody else your hunger cannot be satisfied, so by wrongly trying to satisfy the senses your soul can never be happy. Senses crave indulgence, greed, and temptations to excite and amuse them, whereas soul can be satisfied only by the calmness, peace, and bliss born of meditation and the moderate use of the sense servants. Ambition for good things, noble achievements, and spiritual organization work, serving the many, must be instituted to displace desires for selfishness and greed and for helping only one's own self or one's immediate family. Enjoy all good work and achievements with God. By contacting God in the world and in meditation, you will find all your heart's

desires fulfilled. Then you will be a true man of renunciation, for you will find that nothing is more worthwhile, more pleasant or attractive than the all-beautiful, all-satisfying, all-thirst-quickening, ever-new, joyous God.

## **Expand Your Consciousness**

Desire for one object alone keeps your consciousness tied to that object. Love for all things, as the expression of God, keeps man's consciousness expanded in omnipresence. So one baptized by the Holy Ghost must be unattached, enjoying good things only with the joyousness of God within. He must learn first to hear through touch the Aum, or cosmic sound. First, by the Yogoda meditation, as taught in the Yogoda fifth lesson, he hears the sound of Holy Ghost when all bodily and astral sounds cease. Then, by deeper meditation on this sound, by higher processes learned from the GURU, he can be one with the sound and "Touch" it. Then, after touching or feeling it, by still higher methods, the spiritual aspirant will find his consciousness vibrating simultaneously in his body and in several continents. As he progresses further by deeper and longer meditation, he will find his consciousness vibrating simultaneously in his body, in the earth, the planets, the universes, and in every particle of matter.

## **The Aum Sound**

The intelligent holy vibration, or the first manifestation of God the Father, therefore manifests as the cosmic sound of Aum, or Amen, which can be heard in meditation. It also manifests itself as cosmic energy in all matter. All earthly sounds and the sounds of the body—the heart, lungs, etc. come from the cosmic sound of Aum. Aum contains all the sounds of the nine octaves perceptible to the human ear, as well as all cosmic sounds, low or high, which can not be registered in the human ear. So also, all forms of earthly lights—coal light, gas light, electric light, astral light—come from cosmic energy. Cosmic sound manifests as cosmic energy, and *vice versa*. This cosmic sound manifests as the astral sounds of harps, bells, etc. (microcosmic cosmic sounds) in the astral body of man. So also this cosmic energy exists as the reflected, luminous, or astral, body of man. Higher lessons of Yogoda teachings can teach one to hear and locate the astral sounds emanating from the spinal cord. The physical body is condensed cosmic energy. The astral body is also condensed cosmic energy. The

physical body has two eyes, positive and negative, due to the law of relativity. The astral body has only one eye, which is variously named—the spiritual eye, the single eye (the Christian Bible), the third eye (the Hindu Bible), the star of the East, the star of wisdom, the dove descending from Heaven, the inner eye, the intuitive eye, the Shiva’s eyes, the star through which the wise men saw, etc., etc. During the baptism by the Holy Ghost, as perceived by Jesus Christ, He perceived it as a cosmic sound or Heaven, and the spiritual eye as the dove. This spiritual eye is a spiritual telescope with three rays as its lenses. The outer circle is golden. The inner lens of light is blue and is studded with a five-pointed silver star (as the third ray). The microcosmic cosmic energy microcosmically manifests in the human body as the specific reflected life energy or the astral body. The spiritual or astral eye is the eye of the astral body. The astral eye is the individualized cosmic energy in the human body. In meditation, first the life force must be withdrawn from the body, and must cross the portals of cosmic energy represented by the silver ring. Then it must plunge in the blue light representing Christ Consciousness. Then it must penetrate through the silver star representing Spirit, in the region of the Infinite. These three—golden, blue, and silver light—contain all walls of rays of ultra-violet, electronic, and atomic rays, rays of cosmic energy through which one has to penetrate before one can reach Heaven. The golden halo and the blue central light are the two wings of the dove, and the little white star represents the mouth of the dove. The outer golden light is the Holy Ghost or Cosmic Energy or Nature; the blue represents God the Son or Christ, and the silver star represents God the Father.

So Jesus, during His baptism, saw the cosmic energy manifested in bodily shape, or materialized out of the ether, as the telescopic spiritual astral eye; and out of that spiritual eye representing the cosmic energy came a voice, or intelligent, all-creative cosmic sound, saying or vibrating, in intelligible voice (for all language comes from the Holy Ghost), “Thou art my Son, (or my manifestation); I am glad thou hast risen (lifted thy consciousness) from matter and tuned in with my Omnipresence.”

All material human beings are prodigal sons who have left the home of Omnipresent Holy Ghost and have identified themselves with the infinitely smaller territory of the human body. This Holy Ghost is the Great Comforter. Being guided by the universal, reflected God-consciousness, it contains the all-coveted bliss of God. One filled with this Holy Ghost, or Holy Vibration, can talk with the diverse tongues of inspiration of men,

animals, and atoms. Since all languages are productions of the Holy Ghost, when man can hear, touch, and spread in Aum (or cosmic sound emanating from Holy Ghost), then he can understand or utter all languages, not only of men, but also of all animals and all atoms too. Holy Ghost, Aum of the Hindus, the Mohammedan Amin, the Christian Amen, Voice of Many Water, Word are the same thing. Aum is called the Word because the Word signifies cosmic intelligent vibratory sound which is the origin of all sounds and languages. This intelligent cosmic vibration or Word is the first manifestation of God in creation.

On the day of Pentecost the disciples were filled with the new wine of joy coming from the touch of Aum, or the Comforting Holy Vibration, and they could talk “in divers tongues.” Such were some of the experiences of Jesus after His baptism by the Holy Ghost; and such can be the experiences of Yogoda students now if they study the Yogoda lessons and do not forget them but continue to practice them constantly and continually in real life as the years roll by. The relation of God the Father, the Son of the Holy Ghost will be illustrated and elaborately explained in the June issue.





## **The Baptism by the Holy Ghost, Christ Consciousness and Cosmic Consciousness**

### **THE BAPTISM BY THE HOLY GHOST**

Man is a combination of body, life-force, and consciousness. His consciousness is a reflection of Christ Consciousness. His life-force is a reflection of cosmic energy. His body is condensed cosmic energy and life energy. Consciousness, life-force, and the body are the different rates of conscious, cosmic vibration. Life-force vibrating more finely becomes cosmic consciousness; and life-force, when it vibrates grossly, changes into electrons, atoms, molecules, and bodily flesh. After all, the human body, life-force, and consciousness, being three different vibrations, are held together by the nucleus of ego and soul. Man is condensed miniature vibration. In order to free the soul from the cage of the threefold vibrations of body, life-force, and consciousness, it has to be baptized or united with the original cosmic vibration of “Aum.” When the wave feels itself isolated from the sea, then the boundaries of the wave must be expanded until they take on the shape of the sea.

In the same way, when the soul feels itself confined in the physical, astral, and ideational bodies, it should be taught how to detach itself consciously from these three bodies and become expanded into spirit. By the highest meditation the body loosens its atomic vibrations and becomes life-force, and by deeper meditation the astral body becomes elaborated into the

ideational body. Then by wisdom the ideational consciousness becomes expanded into Christ Consciousness. But it must be remembered that when the Yogi or Yogoda student listens to cosmic vibration, his mind is diverted from the physical sounds of matter outside his body to the circulatory sounds of the vibrating flesh. Then his consciousness wanders from the vibrations of the astral body to the vibrations of consciousness in all atoms. Then the consciousness of the Yogi listens to the Holy Ghost or Cosmic Sound emanating from all atoms. This is the way that ordinary consciousness should be baptized or expanded into Christ Consciousness through the expanding power of the Holy Ghost, or the all-spreading “Aum-vibrating sound” heard in meditation by the practice of the Yogoda fifth lesson.

When you utter “Aum” it travels not only all around the earth but throughout all space and eternity. So the sound emanating from the vibration of all atoms is called the Holy Ghost or the Sacred Vibration. As above said, when by the practice of the fifth Yogoda lesson one is able to shut out sounds of matter, his consciousness passes through the vibrating sounds of the body and through the musical astral sounds to the sound of “Aum” or the “Holy Ghost.” When the Yogi’s consciousness is able not only to hear this cosmic sound but also to feel its actual presence in every unit of space, in all finite vibrating matter, then the soul of the Yogi becomes one with the Holy Ghost or Holy Vibration.

Jesus, the Savior (a Yogi) having met His Guru (preceptor) of former lives, St. John, was baptized by this omnipresent sound of “Aum,” and He also saw with it the spiritual dove, or the light with the two wings of golden and blue color (representing vibrating creation and Christ Consciousness), and the silvery starry mouth (representing Spirit).

## **BAPTISM BY CHRIST CONSCIOUSNESS**

This voice of the Omnipresent Vibration of “Aum” signified “Thou art My Son;” Jesus felt His consciousness attuned to the Christ consciousness or the only-begotten reflection of God the Father’s Intelligence in the Holy Vibration. In other words, Jesus first felt His body as the entire vibratory creation in which His little body was included; then feeling His cosmic finite body, he felt that within the cosmic body of all creation there was a Christ or Universal Intelligence. This Christ is the only-begotten Son, because it is the only active reflected intelligence of the indirectly active transcendental (lying beyond creative vibration)) God the

Father, in vibratory creation. As the husband is reborn in the wife as the Son, so God the Father (transcendental Intelligence) is reflected in the womb of the Virgin Mary (the Virgin Creation) as the only begotten Son, or Christ Consciousness.

The illustration opposite serves best to illustrate Spirit, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost. In Figure A, the sun is seen to exist by itself without anything surrounding it. Such a sun can be described as a bright mass of light with power and heat spreading its rays into space. But in Figure B, the sun is found to be active, existing in relation to the blue crystal ball. In this figure the sunlight is divided as the inactive, transcendental, white light beyond and around the crystal ball, and the active light appearing as blue light in the blue crystal ball. This division of the one sunlight into white and blue light is possible due to the dividing effect of the third object, the blue crystal ball. So the sun is one without any object around it, and with an object around it becomes divided into two lights.

Figure A: The Sun by itself without its rays spreading in all directions falling on any object.

Figure B: The Sunlight falling on a Crystal Ball.

1. Sun. Sunlight lying beyond, and around the crystal ball.
2. The changed Blue Sunlight in the Blue Crystal Ball.
3. The Crystal Ball.

### **The Unmanifested Spirit**

Just as the sun is bright and spherically spreads its rays in space when it stands by itself without any surrounding creation, so the Spirit, as in Fig. C, is called the Unmanifested Absolute.

Figure C: Spirit, (Paramatman), or Unmanifested Absolute.  
The ever-existing, ever-conscious, ever-new omnipresent Bliss.

## **When Nothing Was, Spirit Was**

When no goblin nebulae breathed and glided in the space body, when no fire-eyed baby planets opened their eyes in the cradle of space, when no star-rivers ran across the tracts of infinite space, when the ocean of space was unpeopled, uninhabited by floating island universes, when the sun and moon and planetary families did not swim in space, when the little ball of earth with its doll-houses and little human beings did not exist, when no object of any kind had come into being—Spirit existed. This spirit in its unmanifested form cannot be described except that it was the knower, the known, and all the objects known which existed as one. In it the being, its cosmic consciousness, and its powers, all were one without differentiation.

## **The Spirit Is Ever-Existing, Ever-Conscious, Ever-New Bliss**

It could be described as the ever-existing, ever-conscious, ever-new, joyous spirit. Spirit is ever-new Bliss. There was even no space, for the Spirit did not exist in space or time; there was no dual conception or law of relativity in Spirit; it was everything that there was, is, or is to be. Space and time are categories of objects; as soon as a human being sees a planet hanging in the sky, then he conceives that the planet is occupying dimensional space and is existing in time. But when there were no finite objects in creation, neither was there space nor time, but only the Blissful Spirit existed.

## **Spirit Becomes God the Father**

But when the sun falls on a blue crystal ball its light suffers formal change and division. The unmanifested Spirit felt, “I am alone. I am conscious Bliss, but there is no one to taste me.” Even as He thus dreamed, He became many.

*“The Spirit was invisible, existing alone in the home of all space. He piped in Himself the ever-new, ever-entertaining song of Perfect, Beatific Bliss. As He sang through His voice of Eternity to Himself, He wondered if aught but Himself were listening and enjoying His song. To His astonishment, He felt He was the cosmic Song, and He was the Singing. Even as thus He thought, lo, He became two; Spirit and Nature, Man and Woman,*

*Positive and Negative, Stamen and Pistil of the Flowers, Peacock and Peahen, Male Gem and Female Gem.” My Dreams of God,” from “Whispers from Eternity,” Page 251.*

### **The Spirit Evolves Itself as Three**

Thus in Fig. D the Spirit is seen as divided into three. As soon as the cosmic, bachelor Spirit becomes active and creates the universe, he is no longer Spirit but the husband, God the Father, wedded to the Virgin Mary or Cosmic Vibration.

Figure D:

1. Sat, or Spirit as God the Father of Creative Vibration (Transcendental and Inactive) or Cosmic Consciousness
2. Tat, or God as the Christ Son, the only Reflection (only begotten son) of God, the Christ consciousness as expressed in the vehicle of Jesus the man.
3. “Aum” or God as the Holy Ghost. (Holy Ghost, or Sacred, Invisible, Intelligent, Ghost-like, secretly existing in everything, Cosmic Vibration, or Word, or Virgin Mary, (vibration), or Aum, or Amen, or Voice of many waters, (sound of all vibrations), the Faithful Witness of Creation, or the Sound accompanying creation, or the physical manifestation of God the Father. Holy vibration is sacred because it is guided by Christ Intelligence to perform definite creations.

### **Matter Cannot Be Different from Spirit**

Spirit being the only substance that there was when He wanted to create, He had no substance but Himself to create with, for if there were two substances, spirit and matter, then both could not be infinite and all-powerful. Thus, Spirit having nothing else but Itself, began to create a Magic Delusion, or the cosmic Magical Measurer, which made the infinite look like the finite, even as the calm ocean becomes distorted into ripples on its surface by the action of a storm. So all vibratory creation is nothing but frozen spirit. Spirit dreamed a vibratory universe or Holy Ghost and it was there.

## **All Forms of Matter Are Different Rates of Vibrating Spirit-Thought**

Thought of matter, energy, all matter, all things, are nothing but the differently vibrating thoughts of the Spirit, even as man in his dreams creates a world with lightning and clouds, people being born or dying, loving or fighting, and experiencing heat or cold. All the births and deaths, sickness and disease, solids, liquids, or gases in a dream are nothing but the differently vibrating thought of the dreamer. This universe is a motion picture of God's thoughts on the screen of human consciousness.

## **Spirit Evolves the Holy Vibration or Aum**

So all things, all created planets and living beings, in the Holy Ghost, or Holy Vibration, are nothing but the frozen imagination of God. This Holy Ghost, in the Hindu Bibles is called "The Aum," but by the scientists it is known as cosmic vibration. The Spirit, therefore, could not create matter as anything different from Itself, for it had only Itself as the tissue or material with which to build the cosmos.

## **God the Father, or Sat of the Hindu Bible**

As soon as the Spirit evolved a cosmic vibratory thought through the action of the cosmic magical measuring power of Delusion, it became condensed into cosmic energy. Cosmic energy then became condensed into the material cosmos with solid, liquid, and gaseous substances. After creating the Ideational, Astral, and Physical Vibration, or Holy Ghost, the uncreated, unmanifested Spirit became God the Father. Spirit became the creator of all creative vibration. This God the Father is called the "Sat" in the Hindu Bibles, and is the Transcendental Intelligence, according to metaphysical science. This Virgin, vibratory creation, or Holy Ghost, became the consort of God the Father; that is, God the Father existed transcendently, or outside the vibratory creation as a conscious, separate cosmic consciousness, just as the sunlight remains around and beyond the crystal ball (as in Fig. B).

*(It should be noted that all human similes are imperfect, since by their material nature they are limited and cannot exemplify spiritual truths except in a limited way.)* It should be noted also that the sun does not create the crystal ball, whereas the Spirit, as God the Father, evolved the Holy

Ghost (as in Fig. D). In order to divide itself, the Spirit first differentiated itself as God the Father and the Holy Ghost Vibration.

### **Creation of the Only-Begotten Son, or Christ, or the Tat of the Hindu Bible**

Then the Spirit found that the Holy Ghost could not sustain itself just by its inactive omnipresence, so it made itself manifest as the active Christ Intelligence in all vibratory creation, to create, recreate, preserve, and mold it according to its divine purpose. So the distinct active, differentiated, conscious intelligence, existing in all specks of vibratory creation, or Holy Ghost, is called the Only-Begotten (Christ) Son. It must be remembered that Christ Consciousness in all specks of creation is the only existing reflection of God the Father; hence, Christ intelligence is spoken of as the only-begotten Son.

### **An Error of Churchianity**

The Christian Church has failed to differentiate between Jesus the body and Jesus the vehicle in which the only begotten Son, or Christ Consciousness, was manifested. Jesus Himself said that He was not speaking of His body as the only-begotten Son, but of His soul, which was not circumscribed by the body, but was one with the only-begotten Son, Christ Consciousness in all specks of vibration. “God so loved the world (or matter) that He gave His only-begotten Son” to redeem it; that is, God the Father remained hidden as Christ Intelligence in all matter and in all living beings in order to bring all things, by beautiful evolutionary coaxings, back to His home of All-Blessedness, when they should overcome all mortal tests, and should reincarnate in matter no more; i.e., “go no more out.”

Jesus said, to all those that received Him, to them He gave the power to become the Sons of God. The plural number in “Sons of God” shows distinctly from His own lips that not His body but His spirit was the only-begotten Son, and all those could become sons of God who could clarify their consciousness by meditation, and receive, or in an unobstructed way reflect, the power of God. In other words, they could be one with the only-begotten reflection in all matter and become Sons of God like Jesus.

## **Sons of God Existed before and after the Birth of Jesus**

Before Jesus came, Sage Byasa, writer of the Hindu Bible, Bhagavad Gita, was a Son of God, and knew how to be one with the only-begotten reflection or Kutastha Chaitanya (the undistorted consciousness existing in all vibratory creation). So also, Swami Shankara (the founder of the Swami order of renunciation, about 700 A.D.), Babaji, and Lahiri Mahasaya, (my Guru), and others having Christ Consciousness were Sons of God. The Spirit could not be partial in creating one as Jesus and all others as mortal beings. A divinely-imported Jesus could be made by the thousands by God, and they would, being predestined, naturally behave on earth as Christs—as spiritual puppets of God. Such Christs could not be the ideals of struggling mortals with all their frailties. But when we see a man who by self-struggle and proper use of his God-given free choice and power of meditation become a Christ, then we can stir hope of salvation in the weak, matter-tortured, fear-maligned, timorous, frail human breast.

## **Baptism of Human Consciousness in Cosmic Consciousness**

Just as the husband is born again in the wife as the son, so inactive God the Father, active and manifest in Holy Ghost, became the only-reflected, only-begotten Son. Therefore, it should be remembered by the Yogodan that after listening to and feeling the cosmic sound in all the Physical, Astral, and Ideational cosmos, or in the Physical, Astral, and Ideational Holy Ghost, his consciousness will vibrate in all creation. Then when his expanded consciousness becomes stable in all creation, it feels the presence of Christ Consciousness in all vibration. Then the Yogodan becomes Christ-like; his consciousness experiences the Second Coming of Christ; he feels in his vehicle the presence of Christ Consciousness as Jesus felt Christ expressed in His body. All human beings find their consciousness hide-bound by the body, but by listening to and feeling the “Aum” vibration and intuitive Christ Consciousness, the Yogi realizes that God the Father’s cosmic consciousness exists inactively in regions where there is no motion or presence of the Holy-Ghost vibration. (For the Holy Ghost vibration is limited only to a certain tract of space which is peopled by the cosmos and all island universes. Holy Vibration is condensed into planetary creation.)

When the Yogodan feels his consciousness one with Christ Consciousness, he realizes that Christ Consciousness is nothing but the reflection of the cosmic consciousness of God the Father. Then the Yogodan,



like Jesus, can say, “I (Christ Consciousness in creation) and my Father (Cosmic consciousness beyond creation) are one.” As the white light beyond the blue crystal ball and the blue light in the crystal ball are the same, so also the cosmic consciousness (God the Father), existing beyond all vibratory (Holy Ghost) creation and the Christ Consciousness (Kutastha Chaitanya) in all vibratory creation are the same. When vibratory creation exists, God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost exist. When by cosmic dissolution (greater than Noah’s Flood, which was only partial dissolution) or when by universal dissolution the holy vibration is dissolved, then automatically God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost become reconverted into the one Unmanifested, Absolute Spirit.

*(Now the baptism by water, by Holy Ghost, and by Spirit has been explained. In our next issue you will find a greater explanation of why the Savior, the perfect Jesus, was tempted by the devil after His baptism of the Holy Ghost. What is Satan? Can he consciously tempt us? How does Satan happen to exist side by side with Almighty God? These will be graphically described in the July issue of East-West.)*



## **Metaphysical Satan, Ignorance, Evil Creation, Lightning from Heaven, the Eternal Struggle**

### **THE METAPHYSICAL SATAN**

Jesus, the man, had become one with the Holy Vibration. His body was one with all Creation in which His little body moved. His consciousness was Christ Consciousness, but until the body goes beyond the Christ state and becomes one with the Father, and until the complete union of body, Holy Ghost, Christ Consciousness, and God Consciousness are perceived as one Spirit, mortal tests born of Past Delusion remain.

Although Jesus was one with the Holy Ghost, still His old limited human consciousness and its earthly desires, through the law of habit, tried to attract His expanded consciousness to earthly consciousness. This is the psychological explanation of the origin of the tempting by the firmly established bad mortal habits of the new Divine habit, in order to keep Him from contacting the Great Comforter.

All satisfaction comes from Holy Vibration, for it is the sum total of all earthly things looked for. Sense pleasure is evil because it limits the soul, blinds it, and keeps it from seeking the unlimited happiness in the universal sensorium of the Holy Ghost.

### **THE COSMIC DEVIL OF IGNORANCE AND THE CONSCIOUS DEVIL, OR EVIL**

The Spirit alone is perfect. Everything else in Creation is imperfect. Creation started with the law of duality, with the law of division. The Spirit was perfect. Nothing else was necessary for His perfection; hence, Creation was unnecessary for His evolution. Then why did Spirit create at all? The only answer to that question is that He wanted to consciously enjoy Himself. The Spirit thought: "I am the very nectar of Bliss, but there is no one to enjoy me, so I will create a Cosmic play and divide Myself into many, then Myself as many selves gradually with many mouths of minds may taste the nectar in my Infinite Self.

### **This Creative Desire Is Imperfect**

This Cosmic play came out of the Spirit's desireless desire; that is, this desire for Cosmic play was unnecessary to complete the Spirit's Being, for He was already perfect, but this Cosmic desire itself was imperfect, for it was an urge, a desire to do something. Just a poison does not affect the serpent, so this Cosmic delusive desire existing in Spirit does not affect Him.

### **How Imperfection Shared in Creation**

This Cosmic desire of Spirit was an unnecessary desire, just as sometimes a father may play with his child through a desireless desire which is unnecessary for the father's development. It was imperfect because it wanted to accomplish something, when that accomplishment was not necessary for the completion of the all-perfect Spirit.

This imperfect desire was the original thought vibration which divided the Spirit into many through the law of duality. Besides, the Spirit at first found that He alone, being the only substance existent, could not very well divide Himself into two distinct, essentially different, objects of Spirit and matter, so the Spirit created the differentiation between Spirit and matter in thought only, just as a piece of stone and a thought of a piece of stone in a dream have no essential difference except in the difference existing in frozen human imagination.

Thus the Spirit had to practice a Cosmic deception, a universal mental magic, to perform before the duality of matter and mind and the dualities of finite objects.

## **The Supreme Cause of the Origin of Satan**

This delusive Cosmic differentiation in thought is responsible for all imperfections in Creation; then again, according to the law of cause and effect, the small selves which came out of Spirit were especially gifted with the power of free choice and independent action even as Spirit possessed.

## **This Cosmic Power Was Entrusted To Create Finite Objects**

This Cosmic delusive will thus inherited the power and free choice of Spirit to act independently of His perfect will. As the one sheet of water of the calm sea is chopped into many miniature pieces of water called waves, by the action of a third agent, the wind storm, so the conscious Cosmic, delusive, desireless desire of Spirit manifested itself as the independent conscious magical measurer, or the *Maya*(1) (Cosmic measurer of delusion) of the Hindu Scriptures, and was solely entrusted with the independent power of superficially dividing the Spirit into the perception of perfect finite objects materialized as icebergs of planets, wavelets of stars floating on the vast sea of Infinity.

## **Cosmic Delusive Power Creates the Holy Ghost**

This Cosmic delusive magical measurer has ever since manifested Itself as the Holy Ghost, the Cosmic sacred vibration or Nature (Sanskrit Prakriti).

The plan of Spirit was that this subjective, conscious, Cosmic, delusive force should be endowed with independence in order to cooperate with objectified, conscious, Cosmic vibration in objectified, conscious, Cosmic energy, and with only reflected Christ Intelligence present in it, to create perfect finite objects.

## **Original Plan to Dissolve All Back into Spirit**

Perfect gems in mines, perfect flowers, perfect animals, and human stars in perfect planets were thus created. These perfect objects, after displaying a flawless dream of perfect form, health, habits, and modes of existence on the stage of time, without disease or painful premature death,

or cruel accidents, were to dissolve back into Spirit, just as numerous waves after a separate happy existence without the necessity of being killed or shattered by accidents dissolve back into their one self, the sea, at the end of the storm. That is why in the Christian Bible we find the perfect Adam and Eve communing with God so easily and simply, under the tree and near the altar. They were only cast away from the paradise of Cosmic Consciousness when they were tempted by the devil of Cosmic ignorance.

### **Pain, Accidents, Death, and Disease Were Not Created by God**

According to God's plan, the flower, plant, animals, and human cells were to live recharged by Cosmic Energy, and not cruelly feed on one another. Then, after a perfect existence, a perfect expression and pleasant mutual entertainment, without suffering, all created forms were to dissolve back into Him. Just as rainbows come and go, just as forms of flowers, animals, and human bodies can be created by electrical devices in moving pictures for entertainment and switched on or off at will, so all living creatures and all created things were to exist like mutually entertaining vitaphone pictures on the screen of space and were to disappear in God at the end of their cycle, after the drama of that period was perfectly played.

### **How This Cosmic Delusive Force Became Rebellious**

This conscious Cosmic delusive force, receiving independent power from God, found that all things and all living forms after a perfect existence began to dissolve back into the Cosmic Energy. In this way the Cosmic delusive force began to think that, inasmuch as the Cosmic Energy manifestations of the Holy Ghost or Holy Vibration were to dissolve back into Spirit, It must Itself cease existing with the disappearance of the Holy Vibration. Just as the storm disappears when waves dissolve into the sea, so with the withdrawal of Holy Vibration, the Cosmic delusive force would have to lose Its separate existence. This thought frightened the Cosmic delusive force, the force which aims to keep things in manifestation, and ever since He has rebelled. Before this, the Cosmic delusive force was considered an Archangel of God and was in a friendly manner cooperating with Christ Intelligence and Holy Vibration in creating perfect finite objects. It was at this period that the Cosmic delusive force fell from heaven in the

form of lightning and began to act in apparent opposition to Christ Intelligence and conscious Cosmic Holy Vibration.

### **Lightning Falling from Heaven**

The falling of Satan as lightning from Heaven signifies that originally all Cosmic Energy, being vibrated by the Holy Ghost and Christ Intelligence, was flowing Godward. Then the creative, Cosmic delusive force, fearing complete withdrawal of all energy back into God, began to turn the flow of Cosmic Energy away from His heavenly Presence toward finite creation. Just as, when waves want to fall back into the sea, a fresh storm can compel them to retain their forms, so the Cosmic delusive force became rebellious and began, through the mundane desire of beings, arising from imperfect living, to slap them back into finite existence through the law of reincarnation.

### **Cosmic Delusive Force Becomes Satan**

Reincarnation was started by Satan so that human beings would have to come back again and again to earth until they could lose their imperfect desire to stay on earth and could finally go back to Spirit. Ever since creating the law of reincarnation, the Cosmic delusive force has tortured the immortal souls of the children of God by forcibly imprisoning them again and again behind the bars of painful flesh and making them stay away from their kingdom of omnipresence. By creating the law of reincarnation or punishment by law of cause and effect, which law governs human actions (Law of Karma), the Archangel of God, the Cosmic delusive force, converted Himself into the rebellious Satan.

### **The Enmity between Satan and Christ Consciousness**

Since then, this conflict has existed between the God-tuned, universal, Only-Begotten Son of Christ Intelligence, the Holy Ghost, and the matter-bent love of finite creation, Satan.

### **The Cosmic Struggle**

Jesus, possessing Christ Consciousness realized the tug-of-war between the perfect, universally intelligent Holy Vibration and the Satanic pull of imperfection toward finite Creation. Ever since his rebellion, Satan has created imperfect patterns, representing evil, disease, pain, and catastrophe to disturb the desireless, perfect existence of human beings who were destined to return to God after perfectly playing His Cosmic Drama, inaugurated to entertain His immortal children.

Human beings, disturbed by disease, wanted perfect health, but were cut off by premature death. They wanted to live long, therefore Satan created in them earth-bound desires, and Satan also deluded them into indulging in mental desires which would bring them back again and again under his dominance by the pernicious law of reincarnation. Satan began to create imperfect patterns of plants, infested trees, and diseased human beings in order to foil the perfect patterns of perfect plants, healthy trees, and wholesome human beings instituted by God through Holy Vibration acting in consonance with Christ Intelligence.

(1) *Maya*: The Sanskrit root *ma* signifies “to measure.” The original Aryan race, from which Indu-Aryans, American Aryans, and Caucasian Aryans originated, lived in central Asia. Their principal wealth consisted in cows. *Pa*, father, was the protector. *Ma*, *duh*, (from which *dohter* and daughter, Sanskrit–*duhrter*, originated) signified “milking the cow,” which was the function of the daughter and *ma*, mother. Sanskrit *mata*, Latin *mater*, and mother signified “to measure,” for mother used to measure milk and give it to the c

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Luke 4:1-2

## **Free Will, Evil, Reincarnation, Realization of Truth Seeking God First**

“And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being forty days tempted of the devil.”

### **It Is Childish To Say Evil Does Not Exist**

Many modern scriptural interpreters, unable to understand why Christ Himself introduced the idea of the existence of Satan, have tried to explain away the old conception of a devil by saying it is obsolete, that evil does not exist, or that God does not know evil. Such interpreters, unable to solve the problem of how it was possible for evil to originate in God, who is only good, have gone to the extreme of denying the existence of evil. In the first place, let me say that the denial of the power of evil has some good points, although it is childish to deny the existence and temptations of evil in this world of seeming duality.

Even if the conscious evil force of Satan does exist, it could not influence human minds if we did not mentally accept it. It is better to know all the lures of evil and the ways to combat them than to be blind and deny their existence. Knowledge only, and not indifference, can produce final emancipation. The great drama of Cosmic existence has endowed man with



free choice and the power of reason. Man, the image of God, has the same liberty of free choice in his sphere as God the Father has.

### **Why Does God Not Free Man Immediately?**

If God is Almighty and knows that we are suffering, why does He, being Almighty and eternally blessed, allow weaklings to suffer from the temptations of evil?

The answer is, that after receiving independence, the Cosmic force began to fill Creation with patterns of imperfections, displacing the perfect patterns of God's first plan. God then destroyed all Creation, as described in Genesis, but seemingly He found Himself illogically using His Almighty power in arbitrarily destroying Creation. Also, He seemed to be contradicting His own laws, inasmuch as He destroyed the power of Satan after once giving him independence of action. Then God created again and reinstated the original power of independent free choice which He gave to Satan and to all Creation. God could destroy Satan even now and free us at once from the thralldom of earthly miseries, imperfections, broken hearts, and death by using His Almighty material force, but He would not do that because that would be taking away our independence.

Since God gave independence to man and Satan, He can free them only through teaching them the right use of their own power of free choice. God is not enjoying His eternal blessed state in selfish happiness, but He is suffering for our miserable tragic existence, delayed evolution on earth, and belated return to the paradise of all-emancipating wisdom. He is continuously trying to use the superior force of Divine Love expressed as the parental, friendly, filial, all-surrendering pure conjugal love to coax man to forsake his cooperation with evil, which helps and strengthens it to destroy him.

### **Man Must Make His Own Choice**

Man stands in the middle, with God on one side and Satan on the other side, each ready to pull him in whichever direction he wishes to go. It is up to man to signal God or Satan as to which direction he wants to be pulled. Man is perfectly free to act without being influenced by God or Satan, but whenever he does act right, or has a pure, ennobling thought, that

is the signal to God, and he is automatically pulled toward God; but as soon as man thinks or acts evil, he is automatically pulled toward Satan. However, being essentially an image of God, man can never be eternally drowned in the Hades of evil.

### **Eternal Hades Is Impossible for Man**

No matter how persistently sinful man is, he can never suffer eternal punishment. Evil promises happiness and results only in unhappiness. As soon as man realizes this, then he begins to wish for emancipation and for God. This wish for goodness and freedom serves as a portal through which God is again invited to come into the life of the prodigal son and lead him to the abode of freedom. Even fathomless evil cannot destroy man's soul, for he is essentially immortal and eternally good.

### **Evil Is a Temporary Parasite**

All evil is a passive graft, a temporary parasite on the tree of life, which can be amputated by the knife of wisdom possessed by man.

Whenever man initiates good actions, he is proceeding toward a paradise of Bliss, hidden in the womb of eternal futurity.

### **God Coaxes through All Good – Satan Tempts through Evil**

God is coaxing us with an array of limitless good happenings and is influencing us for our own welfare, whereas Satan is tempting us with pleasant-looking but fleeting happiness-producing patterns of evil. Satan's patterns are temptations because they are deceptive contrivances created to consciously delude us by promising us good and giving us evil instead.

According to the dual conception of good and evil (God and Satan), it becomes easy to understand why there is so much good, together with so much evil. The sky and earth are full of the productions of God's patterns of perfection and Satan's patterns of imperfection to influence man. The beautiful sunshine, clouds, and rain are created by God to benefit man. Cataclysms, earthquakes, and floods were created by Satan to make man uncomfortable.

An eternal display of goodness is materialized in Nature and the life of man, proving that God is trying to impress man and influence him to use his free will and return to the abode of Bliss. Satan, through deceptive, apparently pleasant contrivances of temporary happiness-yielding acts, greed, and lust is trying to keep man tied to this misery-making, limited earth. Jesus, as a manifestation of God, came to speak of the eternal kingdom of Heaven, upon whose threshold no sorrow can tread. Jesus taught that permanent happiness can only be found in God. Satan deludes man into seeking permanent happiness in impermanent material things.

### **Immortality versus Death**

God made man immortal. He was to remain on earth as an immortal. He was to behold the drama of change with a changeless immortal mind, and after seeing change dancing on the stage of changelessness, he was to return to the bosom of eternal blessedness. Then evil crept in, causing man to concentrate on the changes of life and on outward appearances rather than on the underlying immortality in all things, and thus made him conceive the false idea of death or complete annihilation.

### **Destroying the Idea of Death**

The motion picture of a man's life, his birth, life on earth, and death, seen on the screen, produces the joyous consciousness of his birth and the sad concept of his death, or end. But Satanic ignorance hides from view the motion pictures of man's prenatal life as he joyously began the descent from God, and the joyous return to God as he hurried back after death. Satan has made us forget our prenatal and postnatal experiences, and by showing us for a time this drama of life and then lowering the curtain, it has produced in us the erroneous conception called death.

I am not denying the experience of the change called death, but I consider it only as an outwardly moving link in the chain of immortality, all of which is hidden from our view. To say that death or change does not exist, is unmetaphysical and erroneous. To forget this dismal, delusive death, man should behold all change as dancing on the bosom of changelessness. Man should behold the changeless ocean of Infinity as wavelets of change appearing and disappearing.

## **Supernatural Death versus Painful Death**

If Adam and Eve had not transgressed the wishes of God, and their descendants had not allowed themselves to be influenced by hereditary ignorance, then modern man would not have to witness the heartrending painful deaths through accident and disease.

Man appeared on earth, being materialized by God, and was to live on earth, beholding the birth, sustenance, growth, and the painless, sorrowless, return of the body in complete perfection. Then, as it is possible to watch the slow process of a flower budding, growing, and disappearing on the movie screen, so man should behold his life pictured on the screen of his consciousness through the stages from childhood to a full-grown individual, and then his disappearance into God of his own accord by his own power of dematerialization.

Man, being out of tune with God, has lost his power of dematerialization, so he is frightened by the screen picture of life prematurely cut off even before he has finished seeing the whole perfect picture of his changeful life. This premature withdrawal of the motion picture of life produces pain due to attachment to those screen pictures of flesh and consciousness and is known in the world as terrible death by pain.

We mortals have so many misconceptions about death that it has grown into importance and has fixed in us an idea of annihilation and pain instead of being seen as phenomena necessary in the successive steps which the soul must follow in order to return from the state of change to the changeless state. It is necessary for death or change to come, so that the soul may finish beholding this motion picture of life and be released in order to go back to the home of Immortality.

## **How Reincarnation Was Created by Satan**

Satan saw that it would all be very simple if the immortal children of God, after beholding a perfect earthly existence with a changeless attitude, would go back to immortality again; so Satan made imperfect patterns or tampered with the showing of a perfect picture of life before it was completed, and caused mental and bodily pain through delusion. This dissatisfaction, arising from an imperfect, prematurely destroyed picture of

life, created in man the desire to see perfect pictures of life in order to behold them until completion.

Ever since, the immortal images of God forgot their already perfect immortality and began to introduce delusive imperfections in the perfect dramas of life staged on the screen of time. Ever since, immortals have been coming and going from earth by the law of cause and effect, which governs desires. Ever since, this law of cause and effect has affected free souls as the law of Karma (action), which keeps them earthbound.

*This law of cause and effect, which imprisons souls on earth in Satan's Kingdom of finitude, has been called "reincarnation."*

### **How To Destroy Reincarnation**

Immortal souls can only expect to be free by utterly destroying all seeds of earthly desires by Divine contact with God through meditation. This reminds the soul of the unending fulfillment in the immortal inheritances of Bliss, which makes desires for earthly ways unnecessary and ridiculous.

### **Knowledge of Wholeness**

Emancipation from reincarnation is also possible by playing the living drama of a perfect life of health, abundance, and wisdom on the screen of consciousness; that is, if one can remove the consciousness of sickness and not fear sickness if it does come, and not desire health while suffering from ill health, then one can remember one's soul, which was always well and was neither sick nor healthy. If we can feel and know that we are the children of God, and as such possess everything, even as our father, God, does, although we may be poor or rich, we can be free. If we can feel that we have Divine knowledge because we are made in the image of God, although humanly speaking we know little—then we can be free from reincarnation.

Fear of sickness and a desire for mortal health, fear of poverty and a desire for opulence, a feeling of lack of knowledge as well as a desire to know everything, belong to the domain of ignorance. Of course, if we are stricken with ill health, failure, or ignorance, we need not continue to remain so. We should strive for health, prosperity, and wisdom without being afraid of failure.

## **Know That Imperfections are Dreams-born Delusions**

While struggling, man must know that his struggle for health, prosperity, and wisdom is born of delusion, for he already has all he needs within his inner powerful self. It is only because he erroneously imagined, when in spiritually ignorant mortal company, that he did not have these—that is why he lacked them. All he has to do is to think right and not strive to acquire things. He needs only to know that he already has everything.

Once a healthy, wealthy, and wise prince dreamed that he was poor, and in the dream he shouted, “Oh, I am suffering from cancer and I have lost all my wisdom and riches.” His wife, the queen, woke up and roused him, saying, “Look, prince, laugh and rejoice, for you are neither suffering from sickness nor have lost riches and wisdom, but you are comfortably lying at my side in health and wisdom, in your rich kingdom. You were only dreaming about these catastrophes.”

So it is with ignorant man. He is dreaming about lack and failure, when he might claim his birthright of joy, health, and plenty as a son of the ruler of the universe. He is now living in his perfect kingdom but is dreaming evil.

## **Know God First**

The constant desire for health and prosperity, which is so much harped upon in modern spiritual organizations, is the way to slavery. We must seek God first and then find health and prosperity through Him. Beggars get only a beggar’s share, whereas a son of God gets his son’s share. That is why Jesus spoke of *seeking and knowing the kingdom of God first. When that is actually accomplished, then health and prosperity will be added. The acquirement of wisdom and everything else that the soul of man needs will be received as a matter of his Divine birthright.*

It is best to feel by visualization and by Divine contact in meditation that you are already perfect in health and wisdom and have abundance, rather than try to succeed by begging for health, prosperity, and wisdom. In fact, man’s mortal efforts are bound by the laws of cause and effect. Man cannot get more than he deserves. By the method of begging, no human being can

ever fulfill all his endless desires; but by first realizing his oneness with God, man can own everything he needs.

Man cannot have immortality by begging for it or by feeling a desire for it. He should know that he is already immortal and that so-called death is only a dream.

According to the plan of God, man should have experienced growth from childhood and through youth to manhood, but should never have experienced death by old age or disease. Even if man becomes old, he should never die of disease or suffer painful death. In the drama of life and death, when beheld with Divine understanding, there can be no pain in death, but only the showing or stopping of the motion picture of life at will without physical or mental pain.

## **Origin of Pain**

The outward flowing force which struggles to keep all things in manifestation saw that without pain people would not create earthly desires to hold them here, so the illusion of pain was created, which is purely a mental phenomenon. The pain of ill health and death creates the desire for health and life, and to have health and life the immortal image of God must again and again return on earth to complete its slow growth from ignorance to enlightenment.

Satan is defeating his own purpose, for it is physical pain and sorrow which cause matter-imprisoned souls to seek freedom in God. A child's pure soul feels very little pain. A doctor friend in an Orthopedic hospital told me that children vie with each other to get their deformed limbs operated upon, whereas adults have to be coaxed for weeks, and at the time of their operation they are usually overcome with emotion and fear.

Man has fortunately discovered anesthetics to neutralize pain. Originally, man had great self-control and a mind which was unattached and impersonal, and so did not feel pain when the body was injured. He could behold his own body without pain, even as one can witness an operation on another's body without becoming mentally excited or suffering physical pain.

Although a mother feels terrible agony when her own son dies, she does not feel the same when hearing of the death of a stranger's son. So it is

that man feels the agony of accident and disease in his own body but not the suffering of others. This is only due to the proximity of continued attachment. The farmer's waterproof, fireproof, less sensitive child feels much less physical suffering than the sensitively brought up son of the rich. If you have no fear or nervous imagination, you will feel less pain.

Jesus was tempted in the wilderness with the wild beasts of passion and the fierce mortal desires of pain and hunger for material kingdoms, sent by Cosmic Satan.





## **The Origin of Evil**

There are many causes which can be set forth as to the origin of evil. Some people say that it is due to man's own fault and that neither God nor any evil power, such as that of a conscious Satan, is responsible for all the evil in the world.

Although evil is relative and is due to the lack of harmony with God's laws, if you hit a stone wall with your knuckles, the resulting undeniable evil of pain would not be created or willed by the wall, but would be due to your ignorance in trying to hurt a stone wall.

Likewise, it can be said, God is the eternal stone wall of goodness, and anyone who is foolish enough to misuse his intelligence and try to act against the good is bound to produce the evil of pain and suffering. God is good. We were made in His image, endowed with the gift of free choice to tune in with His Nature of Goodness, Peace, and Immortality, and those who get out of tune with Him by performing evil actions are bound to suffer.

Many people say that evil resulted from the erroneous effort of trying to collide evil actions and pernicious ways of life with the wall of eternal good principles underlying all things in God, or from breaking God's laws. Then others say that evil arises not only from trying to reconcile good and evil, but results also from the law of cause and effect; that man, although made in the image of God and receiving perfect independence, misused it and acted in a way resulting in the collision with good, which produced evil.

A little boy endowed with reason may enjoy perfect health and protection under the strict discipline of his mother, but then he grows up and says, “Mother, I know I am safe under your care, but I wonder why you gave me the power of free choice if you are always to decide how I am to act? Mother dear, I want to choose for myself and find out in what lies my own good and what leads me to suffering.”

The mother replies: “Son, it is right for you to demand from me the right to use your free choice. When you were helpless and your reason had not yet budded forth into full expression, I helped you, and nurtured you through the maternal love which protects babies. Now, however, you are grown up, your reason has opened your eyes, and you must depend upon your own free choice and judgment to guide you to do what will produce your wellbeing.”

Thus the youth ventures into the world unguarded, with a semi-developed reason, and the first thing that he does is to get into a fight and secure the resulting evil of a broken leg and a black eye.

In exactly the same way the Divine Mother protects each baby through the instinctive love of parents until grown up; then the baby has to protect itself by the exercise of reason. If the baby uses reason rightly, it becomes happy, but if reason is misused, then evil is precipitated through the misuse of reason.

### **Subjective Origin of Evil**

Many intellectualists claim that evil is more subjective than objective. This is not wholly true. It can be explained that most evil is due to the ignorance of man. For example, the habit of physical over-indulgence and its consequent evils of indiscretion, ill health, and grip of temptation, does not arise until man, by an act of erroneous judgment forgets himself and subjectively by repeated transgressions allows this consciousness to become a habit.

All habits, good or bad, control and enslave the mind only after the ill has allowed itself to be overcome by repeated good or evil actions born of good or evil judgment, as the case may be. Thus it may be said, man’s good judgment, and his will, acting under its influence, produce all good, and man’s ignorant or evil judgment, and his will acting repeatedly under its

influence is responsible for all evil. From this viewpoint good and evil are mostly subjective instead of originating in some objective power.

It may be asked why some children are born with special tendencies of self-control and some with tendencies of weakness. Some intellectuals may point out that heredity is responsible for good or bad traits in a child. Then the question comes: Why would an impartial God start one child with a good heredity and a good brain inclined only to good tendencies, and another child with a bad heredity and the brain of a moron inclined only to do evil under the compelling influence of evil physiological instincts?

According to the law of reincarnation and the law of karma, or the law of cause and effect, which governs the actions of all persons, it is explained that the soul attracts to itself a good or bad heredity, and a good or bad brain, according to prenatal habits formed during the period of the past incarnation preceding death in the last incarnation and rebirth in this life. Therefore, it may be said that the good or bad judgment of all incarnations, working through the law of cause and effect, which governs all human actions, creates good or bad habits, and that good or bad habits create good or bad hereditary tendencies, and that thus all evil arises from wrong judgment.

All this is very well said, namely, that evil is subjective, but it does not explain why millions of bacteria and virulent, invisible armies of germs move silently about the earth seeking, like devouring locusts, to destroy the crop of human lives.

Why is it easy for the majority of people to be tempted materially? Why are they spiritually idle, and why do they do the very things that will hurt them? Why is there death by floods and cataclysms? Why do men murder each other in war? It does not seem possible that all of the ten million people destroyed by flood and famine in China could have suffered due to their past actions in previous lives.

Why is there cannibalism in Nature? Why does the baby salmon live on the flesh of its mother? Why does the big fish eat the little fish? Why do even the thoughts of wrong judgment and emotions of jealousy, revenge, greed, and selfishness arise at all in the human mind which was made in the image of God?

If man is the image of God, and God is good, then the logical deduction is that man could become nothing else but good. The world war

may have resulted from industrial selfishness, from nations fuming with national selfishness and greed for possession, but why was it not avoided by parliamentary discussions? Why was it that the slaying of the Austrian Duke threw the world into furious conflagration? Think of Tamarlane, emperor of India, slaying one million Hindus after his victory.

Think of the joy in fishing. You deceive the fish by hooked food, and the more the fish struggles for life, the more you enjoy it and say, "My, it is a game fish." Would you like to change places with the fish? Think of the Aztecs, who used to cut the hearts out of their prisoners of war, six or seven hundred at a time, in front of their idol gods. Think of all the burning of witches and martyrs under the zeal of the Christian faith.

Think of the war of the Crusades, fought for the Biblical teachings, which preach only love for y our enemies. Think of the thousands of priests who advocated war and prayed for the destruction of their enemy brothers and victory for themselves. Think of the numberless diseases which infest plants and animals who have no free choice and who consequently could not attract prenatal evils due to bad karma.

The eternal warfare of animals preying on one another, and the battle of opposites in Nature, distinctly show that there is an evil force which is employing germs, wrong judgment of men, and cannibalistic instincts, which are wrong vibrations resulting from the wrong actions of man, and breed temptation to do wrong in infinite ways by trying to destroy the efforts of the Infinite Good who is trying to express Himself in infinite good ways.

### **If We Were Gods, We Would Create a Much Better World**

We think that if we were Almighty we could create a much better world than this. We would banish from this earth cancer, accidents, weakness, revengefulness, anger, greed, murder, famine, leprosy, cannibalism, industrial greed resulting in depression, earthquakes, floods, bad weather, drought, death by pain, boredom, old age, despair, poisonous bacteria, tragedies of life, and so forth.

We would create a world with a joyous struggle and not painful struggle, an ever-new happy state of mind for all men, entirely different from mental idleness and boredom. We would make the body with the qualities of asbestos, diseaseless, changeable according to the commandments of our

will. We would have our bodies tailored in the workshop of materialization and self-rejuvenation.

We would create a variety of occupations with a variety of actions, all leading to Infinite, unending, ever-new happiness. Good citizens would be materialized by will from the ether, even as God created the first man and woman, and would dematerialize ourselves in Cosmic Consciousness after we had successfully finished our earthly entertainment.

### **The Dragon, Subjective Evil, and No Evil**

Blind theologians and superstitious people made a dragon out of Satan, which had to be killed by the sword of the conquering knight. Modern intellectuals try to explain Satan away as a merely subjective idea born of ignorance. Some modern spiritual denominations, being unable to explain the existence of evil in the entirely good God, completely and blindly deny even the existence of evil.

We find that Jesus, whose knowledge was born of intuition, distinctly spoke of a conscious Satan who lured Him to the wilderness and tempted Him with the wild beasts of evil patterns arrayed side by side with the good patterns of God. This conscious force comes in the form of little temptations to the ordinary man. Imagine how a young boy like Hickman of California, who was a devout devotee of the church, could be influenced by evil to cut a young girl to pieces just for the fun of it. The Loeb and Leopold boys of Chicago were tempted also by evil to mutilate the body of a young boy just to satisfy the sense of curiosity. The existence of such evils is the reason Jesus prayed: "Thy kingdom come," in order that man might use his independence and act rightly, and that he might substitute the kingdom of God for the kingdom of evil.

Satan, like a fisherman, has cast a net of delusion around all mankind and is continually trying to drag man toward the slavery of delusion, death, and finitude. Satan tempts humanity by his baits of greed, and promises of pleasure, and leads people to destruction and continuous painful reincarnations. He keeps souls, like fish, in the pond of finitude and spawns them with desires for his own destructive uses

## **Satan Creates an Evil Pattern for Every Good Pattern Created by God**

For all the patterns of good created by God, Satan created corresponding patterns of psychological evils. God created wisdom; Satan, ignorance. God created all good; Satan, all evil. God created the senses of sight, smell, taste, hearing, and touch to be the servants of man, bringing happiness to him. Satan by temptation made man the slave of his senses and caused the resultant misery.

### **Misuse of Senses**

The senses of hearing, smell, and sight can be over-taxed with very little ill effect. Very few people are foolish enough to strain their eyes so much that they become blind. No one can smell flowers or perfumes long enough to cause death. Very few people can make themselves deaf by continuously listening to good music. Of course, the sense of sight may be baited by physical beauty and result in a series of wrong judgments and misery. The sense of hearing may be misused and lost by too much practice of cannon shooting or other loud explosions. The sense of smell can be vitiated, but it is the most harmless of all the five senses and can stand much abuse without retaliation.

Think what dreadful consequences follow when the sense of taste or touch is over-taxed. How easy it is to over-eat and hasten death by indigestion. How easy it is for most people to over-indulge in physical temptation and indiscretion and bring upon themselves ill health, boredom, social and matrimonial disaster, jealousy, murder, and so forth. God wanted man to procreate His species by materialization, but Satan, through misuse of his God-given power of free choice, created the physical urge and its infinite complications to keep man's mind away from the joy of God. If God created infinite Bliss, Satan created the greatest of all the temptations—that of the flesh.

### **How Satan Created Temptation to Oppose God's Pattern of Soul Bliss**

Is it wrong to have good children by the ordinary law of procreation? No, but remember that Satan's law of procreation and its misuse can be overcome only by moderation in marriage and by self-control and by the joyous contact with God in meditation and not by hypocritical renunciation.

When the joy of God, felt in meditation with stillness of breath, remains continuously in the soul, then the physical temptation vanishes forever through contrast with this greater joy. Real freedom can be accomplished in no other way.

### **The Middle Path to Freedom**

The joy in God is more tempting than all temptations. Just as when opium is suddenly denied to an opium addict, he becomes sick or dies, so, unless the laws of Satan, which have become second nature to man, are worked off gradually, man dies the death of ignorance.

Attempted complete self-control, by the sense-tortured individual develops hypocrisy. That is why Saint Paul said: [“It is better to marry than to burn.” \[I Corinthians 7:9\]](#) Moderation in married life, supplemented by tasting of the Infinite Bliss of deep meditation and the unconditioned Divine Love in the soul, is a better way to freedom than the earthly way of reincarnation by physical procreation. The man who has completely attained Divine Bliss may not marry. If he does marry, as did Lahiri Mahasaya (my Guru’s Guru, it is only to show people how the consciousness of God can tame temptation and how God’s love can spiritualize conjugal love, and how it can exist under all conditions of life.

Since God’s love is more tempting than temptation, one can love God even though he loves his wife. One can love his wife with the love of God and not love of flesh. To love your wife in a material way only is to invite Satan to dwell with you and lead you to boredom, destruction of your most wonderful love, and to separation. To love your wife with the pure love of God and to live with her a life of self-control by mental development, and to create spiritual children is a noble way to live. To be drowned by material cares, weariness, over-work, greed for money, over-indulgence in amusements, buying more things, and slaving for more money and saving no time for God leads you to the misery kingdom of Satan. A happy, contented, simple, harmonious married life of self-control and meditation leads you to God.

## **The Opposites**

God created forgiveness; Satan created revenge. Likewise, God created calmness, fearlessness, unselfishness, spirit of brotherhood, peace, love, understanding, wisdom, and happiness, and for each of these Satan created its psychological opposite of restlessness, fear, greed, individual and material selfishness, war, anger, hate, murder, and jealousy instead of understanding; ignorance in place of wisdom, and sorrow to fight happiness.

Sense slavery was created to defeat the happiness in self-control. National selfishness, false sense of patriotism, industrial selfishness, and national pride were created by Satan to destroy the universal spirit of brotherhood, international understanding, and law of equality created by God. Conscience, the voice of God, always beckons you to do right. Temptation, the voice of Satan, coaxes you to do wrong.

*Remember that Satan has brought disease, cataclysms, famine, pain, death, strife, and imperfection in Nature so that man may desire to have a perfect earth and return again and again to earth life, where Satan reigns, and never go back to Spirit. Let us, by perfect living in a spiritual United States of the World make God's Heaven from Satan's earth of imperfection. Let us help God's pattern, to take the place of the evil designs of Satan.*

Belief in an objective Satan explains the origin of all evil, which cannot be explained by the individual or collective subjective ignorance of man. You are free, so when you are tempted, or angry, or jealous, or selfish, or greedy, or revengeful, or restless, remember that Satan is asking you to come to his side. Remember that every time you are master of yourself: moderate, calm, understanding, unselfish, forgiving, and when you practice meditation, you are inviting God to help you. Remember, above all, that you are a free agent endowed with free will, and that Satan can only influence you when you command yourself to yield to his temptations.

## **You Must Choose**

Remember, God can redeem you only when you act in accordance with His laws of right living in every way. Remember, also, that you are in the middle, with Satan standing at your left with his kingdom of misery and God remaining at your right with his kingdom of happiness. It rests with you



whether you will allow Satan to pull you to his side, or whether you will ask God to draw you to His side of Eternal Freedom.

*Remember, every time you are tempted to do wrong, it is not your subjective mind alone which is tempting you, but also objective Satan; and recognizing this, refuse to cooperate with him, thereby being destroyed.*

### **Oneness Only Reality. God Alone Exists**

Satan can work as wrong subjective consciousness in man, or he can become the objective evil in Nature. Many people think this conception of Satan teaches duality and not the conception of one God, who alone exists in the Cosmos. This is not true. In essence, in reality, there is nothing but Spirit, the only substance in existence, the ever-existing, ever-conscious, ever-new Bliss.

As the ocean, when it is calm, can exist without the storm and the waves, so the Spirit, by withdrawing all waves of manifestation, can exist as the only One Goodness, as the only One Reality, but when the ocean is in movement, we must acknowledge a second force, the storm, which divides the one ocean into many struggling, mutually destructive big and small waves.

God, in creating the Cosmos, has to use the independent Cosmic force of Satan's delusion to produce in us the delusion of finite substances. As the waves do not change or hurt the ocean, in spite of the fact that big waves are destructive to small waves, so God, manifest as finite imperfect waves of creation, is not affected or changed in essence, although finite objects are perpetually colliding and destroying one another. After all, the evil of delusion exists only in the form, not in the essence of the Spirit. As long as there is Creation, so long will there be the conception of imperfection, for the formal delusion which produces in the infinite substance the consciousness of finite phenomena is born of Cosmic delusion.

### **Man Must Obtain Complete Understanding**

Spirit is perceived as the only Reality, the only eternal substance existing, when one goes into deep Samadhi (oneness with Spirit) and sees the ocean of Spirit without the waves of Creation. After attaining this realization, one is justified in saying that there is neither subjective nor

objective Satan, but only ever-new, ever-joyous Spirit. However, as long as Creation only is perceived, one has to acknowledge the appearance of duality. God and Satan are facts, even if the latter exists only in delusion and not in reality. If you are dreaming and you hit your dream head against a dream wall, you will have a dream pain. While dreaming, you cannot deny the resultant pain of the collision of a dream head with a dream-conceived wall. In the same way, we are dreaming the delusion of the universe and cannot say that Satan or evil, or pain, disease, and matter do not exist. One who has wakened up in Cosmic Consciousness and forgotten the dream of Cosmic Delusion may say: “Ah, nothing exists but pure eternal goodness—one Spirit.”

While Jesus was striving to reach the final state of highest wisdom, the accumulated, subjective, and objective evil born of delusive habits of incarnations, through memory of short-lived happiness born of contact with temporal finite things, began to tempt him and try to dissuade him from God.

Jesus did not deny this evil. He recognized it and destroyed its binding force by the sword of wisdom, saying, “[Get thee behind me, Satan,](#)” [Matthew 16:23] which means: “Let delusion be left behind my soul racing toward the Spirit.” Do not deny subjective or objective evil while you are in delusion, but watch the destructive patterns of evil everywhere as temptation within you and as imperfection and strife in Nature.

Rally your patterns of goodness in your conscience and reason, and in the presence of God, as beauty in all Nature. Strengthen your consciousness of goodness, and in its light drive away the darkness of evil. After successfully doing this, say, “Nothing exists but the goodness of God.”

To the ordinary man, Satan appears as subjective ideas subtly luring him through pre-natal and post-natal bad habits. To the highly advanced, Satan takes objective form and uses vibratory voices in his last attempt to dissuade the Godward fleeing master who tries to remain completely beyond the net of satanic delusion.

Thus it was that when Satan saw Jesus nearing complete emancipation in God, he took an objective shape, talked to Him, and promised Him the temporal happiness which all his evil patterns of life could afford if Jesus would only forsake God. In the wilderness, when Jesus was enjoying the Divine Bliss contact of God, Satan used the wild beasts of passion, greed of possession, and so forth, to lure Him away from the complete attainment of Divine understanding.

If Jesus had been God on earth, He could not have been tempted, and would not have shown signs of mental struggle, as he did when he said, “Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: Nevertheless, not my will, but thine be done.” He also said, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” [Luke 22:42 and Matthew 27:46]

Even after His crucifixion, in the astral state, Jesus had to purify Himself of all vestiges of delusion. That is why He said to Mary, to whom He first appeared, “Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father.” [John 20:17] Jesus was freeing Himself from all delusion, and when that was finished He attained complete self-mastery and could materialize His body at will and thus appear for forty days to His disciples.



John 1:48-50

## Astral Beings

Nathaniel said unto him, “Whence knowest thou me?” And Jesus answered and said unto him, “Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.” Nathaniel answered and said unto him, “Rabbi, thou art the Son of God; thou art the King of Israel.” Jesus answered and said unto him: “Because I said unto thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? Thou shalt see greater things than these.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

Jesus said to Nathaniel: “I saw thee under the fig tree; i.e., I saw thy soul under the nerve branches of the cerebro-spinal tree.” Jesus, by his Spiritual Eye saw Nathaniel’s soul resting under the astral nervous system (fig tree). Man’s body is an upturned tree with roots of hair and cranial nerves at the base of the trunk of the spinal tree of life, shooting out branches of the nervous system. Any spiritual adept looking into another soul deeply can see the soul and its astral nervous system. Spiritual souls have a refined astral nervous system. Material souls have the poor figs of material desires vibrating on the branches of their astral nervous system.

The above explains how Jesus saw Nathaniel under the fig tree. Nathaniel might have been under a real fig tree and Jesus could have seen him there, but here Jesus speaks of seeing Nathaniel, not with physical eyes,

but with the telescopic spiritual eye which can reveal the remotely situated fig tree of the astral nervous system in the Kingdom of the unseen.

Nathaniel could feel the astral body of Jesus entering into his. That is why in an instant he said, "Thou art the Son of God." A son of man is attracted to one body and is unconsciously ejected only at the time of death, but a Son of God, like Jesus, feels His omnipresent consciousness existing in His great body of all matter. Jesus, although apparently existing and working through one body, was not limited by it, but could transfer his consciousness into any other body and feel its sensations, perceptions, and thoughts and emotions.

Jesus, through his omniscience, could simultaneously feel his own body or any other group of bodies at the same time. That is why He said, "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father." (Matt. 10:29)

Jesus, being one with the Father, had the same omniscient consciousness that His Father had. Therefore, Nathaniel, feeling the consciousness of Jesus transferred within himself, felt himself divinely transmuted and acknowledged Jesus as the Son of God and the King of Israel. The first title is the Divine Title and is of tremendous significance.

Nathaniel spoke of Jesus as the Son of God and owner of the universe and, being such, he was also the greatest power (King) in Israel, which lay somewhere on this little pill of earth situated in God's Kingdom of the Universe.

Jesus answered and said, "Because I said unto Thee, I saw thee under the fig tree, believest thou? Thou shalt see greater things than these." Jesus was pleased to find Nathaniel respond to His spiritual vibrations. Nathaniel's belief in the words of Jesus was the result of the vibratory experience which Nathaniel received from Jesus.

Many people do not believe even after they feel a truth, so Jesus said unto Nathaniel, "As you believe in Me, just receiving My vibrations, you will see greater things, (greater miracles) than these, i.e., than these miracle of My sending to you astral and thought vibrations."

And He said unto him, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, hereafter ye shall see heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man." ("Walks and Words of Jesus," by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [John 1:51]

## **Spiritual Interpretation:**

Verily, I say unto you: Afterwards you shall see the astral region through the opening of the telescopic Spiritual Eye and you shall see the luminous astral bodies ascending out of the dead physical bodies into the Astral Kingdom. Also you shall behold many astral bodies descending into the physical bodies of newly conceived babies. Son of Man signifies the physical body.

In Genesis, God created the firmament. He called the firmament "Heaven," and He divided the waters from the waters. Space is the pearly gate of Heaven, which hides the finer forces of waters, and the waters (gross elements) under the firmament gathered together and the dry land appeared. The gross elements lie on the outward boundary of space.

Different races conceive of Heaven according to their racial habits of thought. Certain sects believe that Heaven is filled with large-eyed damsels and fine food, and so forth, even as the fish who live in water might conceive of human beings living on earth as a heaven of celestial fishes all swimming in water. Just as this is absurd, so most human beings talk of Heaven as a place where cool breezes blow evermore, where weather is not violent, where all kinds of fruits can be found, and where winged angels move. We can easily see the idea that angels were given wings because of the human desire to be like the birds, freely flying where they choose.

Modern man may picture angels using airplanes moving at the rate of 4,000 miles an hour, yet, when we think how fast light and electricity move, the flight of airplanes seems like the movement of an ox cart. The time will come when man will learn to change the atomic vibrations of his gross body and make them into an astral force. It is then that he will be able to shoot along with the astral light rays at the rate of 500,000,000 miles per second—even faster than light.

When man learns astral travelling, he will find that he can travel faster than light, but when he learns the full mystery of mind, he will be able to travel faster than any force—material light or astral. If he wished to be in the sun or the moon, or the fastest star, he could be there instantly.

Jesus speaks of the opening of Heaven. This is possible in two ways:

1. By losing the limitations of the physical eyes (which see nothing but the gross vibrations of matter) through years of practice in looking into and penetrating the Spiritual Eye until it is possible to see into the Astral Heaven.

2. By having the vibrations of space and other finer walls of lights removed through the command of the Ultimate Intelligence, then man can see the luminous Astral Kingdom hidden behind the Firmament.

In this Astral Kingdom everything is light. There is astral land, astral sea, astral air, astral skies, astral darkness and light, and astral gardens and beings, all made of the different vibrations of light. They may be compared to different kinds of fish which have to live in differently-vibrating spheres. It is difficult for astral beings living in grosser vibrations to go into the subtle astral vibratory sphere where finer astral bodies live.

We have astral gardens and flowers planted on the soil of the ether. They surpass any human description. Here the flowers glow like Chinese star shells, ever growing and ever changing, and ever adapting themselves to the fancy of the astral beings, and disappearing when they are not wanted. They come back again with new colors and fragrance when desired again.

Here the astral beings drink many-hued lights from living fountains falling from the bosom of Astral mountains. Here millions of miles of deep and wide astral oceans heave with azure, opal, green, silver, gold, blood red, yellow, and aqua marine. Diamond colored waves dance in perpetual rhythm of beauty. Astral beings swim here and use all their subtle senses as we use them in the dreamland. The only difference is that there is more beauty and perfection in the Astral World than on the earth. The earth is so full of decay and destruction. In the Astral World the havoc done by an astral earthquake could be remedied by mere willing. Of course, this Astral Kingdom decays slowly and is a billion times older and longer-lived than this earth has been or is going to be.

In the Astral Kingdom there is only spiritual marriage, and children are created by the immaculate method of condensing the positive or negative thoughts, and will, and feeling tendencies of parents into the form of a male or female child, the positive thought producing a male child, the negative thought producing a female child.

## **Birth and Death in the Astral Kingdom**

In the Astral World there is birth and death. Souls promoted from the earth are born in the Astral Kingdom, and when they leave, at the end of their good Karma, they go back to the earth or to similar inhabited planets in other island universes. Some souls who develop in the Astral Kingdom, do not die there but consciously lift themselves into the omnipresent bosom of God and become One with God.

Jesus had gone beyond the Astral World, so He said, “I and my Father are One.” Souls who consciously spiritually develop on earth, and who can retain their consciousness during the transition of death, can come into the Astral Land and consciously develop until final freedom in God is attained. Then the Karma-compelled journey of reincarnation toward the earth is stopped.

In the Astral Land souls do not use imperfect limited mortal intelligence and senses. There they use various grades of semi-developed intuition and highly developed intelligence.

## **No Books in the Astral Land**

The Astral Land is conspicuous for the absence of books, for the Astral Beings can concentrate upon anything and know about its nature through the instantaneous knowledge-producing power of intuition.

## **Saints and Ordinary Beings of the Astral Land**

Here in Astral Land we find highly developed saints and also ordinary beings with only semi-developed intuitions. It is only after becoming One with God that a soul does not have to read books or concentrate upon anything in order to know it by intuition. When a soul becomes One with God, that soul's intuition, being identified with Spirit, already knows all and sees all without trying to know anything, even by the effort of intuition.





John 2:1-4

## Money Changers, Part 1

“And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there. And both Jesus was called, and His disciples, to the marriage. And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto Him, ‘They have no wine.’ Jesus saith unto her, ‘WOMAN, WHAT HAVE I TO DO WITH THEE? MINE HOUR IS NOT YET COME.’” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

Jesus addressed His mother as “woman” because He saw only the Divine Spirit as His real mother and father, and His earthly mother as only a human being. “Woman, I can have nothing to do with thee, even though thou art my mother, until the right time comes for me to be directed by the Divine Power to act, and to manifest His glory.”

Jesus did not perform the miracle of turning the water into wine just to accommodate His mother, or to show His Divine Powers, but He performed the miracle in obedience to God’s direction.

At the proper time, before people who have the possibility of Spiritual awakening, miracles are sometimes performed by Saints in order to bring people unto God. Saints usually prefer to draw people by the love

of God and not be miracles. That is why they seldom show their power. Miracles draw curiosity seekers, while the love of God draws highly developed Souls. For that reason Jesus did not want to perform miracles until He was commanded by God to do so at the right time.

“His mother saith unto the servants, ‘Whatsoever He saith unto you, do it.’ And there was set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece. Jesus saith unto them, ‘FILL THE WATERPOTS WITH WATER.’” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [John 2:5-7]

At Divine intuitional suggestion, Jesus asked the servants to fill the waterpots so that He could declare the glory of God by changing the water into wine. Besides, He had the pots filled with water before their eyes in order that they might see it and know that it became wine through Divine Power and not through magic.

“And they filled them up to the brim. And He saith unto them, ‘DRAW OUT NOW AND BEAR UNTO THE GOVERNOR OF THE FEAST.’ And they bare it. When the Ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was (but the servants which drew the water knew), the Governor of the feast called the bridegroom, and saith unto him, ‘Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse; but thou has kept the good wine until now.’ This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth His glory; and His disciples believed on Him.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [John 2:8-11]

The above sentence distinctly shows that the miracle of Jesus was not meant for the gaze of curiosity seekers, but was meant to enhance the faith of the disciples in God’s power over all things.

Wine and the human body are equally made of electrons. It is the different rate of vibration of these electrons that constitutes the endless variety of material forms. Jesus, being omnipresent in God, knew that metaphysical relation of matter to Divine Will. He demonstrated that one form of matter could be changed into another form, not only by chemical

processes, but by the Universal Power of Mind. This miracle testifies to the fact that all matter is controlled by the one unifying and balancing power of Divine Intelligence and Will.

By reacting to this Divine Intelligence, Jesus changed the arrangement of electrons and protons in the water and thus turned them into wine, which has a different specific gravity from water. The law of causation of all material forms can be traced to the activity of electrons, but beyond that the sources of the law of cause and effect is lost. Scientists do not know why electrons and protons rearrange themselves into different forms and create different kinds of matter.

Herein lies room for a Divine Intelligence, says the scientist, inasmuch as it must be that power which commands the subtle electronic and protonic bricks and directs them to arrange themselves in different combination, thus creating different substances.

“After this He went down to Capernaum, He, and His mother, and His brethren, and His disciples; and they continued there not many days. And the Jews’ Passover was at hand. And Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep, and doves, and the changers of money, sitting. And when He had made a scourge of small cords, He drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers’ money, and overthrew the tables; and said unto them, that sold doves, ‘TAKE THESE THINGS HENCE; MAKE NOT MY FATHER’S HOUSE AN HOUSE OF MERCHANDISE.’” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [John 2:12-16]

Jesus was not suffering from anger while He was using the whip or cords to drive the money changers from the temple. It was not the little cord, but the personality, the Divine vibration and the colossal Spiritual force behind it, which frightened away the money changers. Great prophets, though they are internally free from anger, may use the semblance of anger to admonish and correct those who respond more to fear vibrations than to love vibrations.

Jesus, who tells you to love your enemies, shows by the above action that the Divine Saint also has power behind His meekness. No one dared to resist His Spiritual Power and determination, as was shown by the fact that

a whole group of able-bodied money changers fled before the power of a single meek man.

Jesus said that the House of God should be free from the contradictory vibrations of material thoughts involved in buying and selling. He only meant that according to the laws of concentration we should center our minds upon one thing at a time. While in the house of God, we should concentrate upon Him, and there should be nothing there to awaken material thoughts. He meant that buying and selling should be carried on in the market and not in the temple.

There is a spiritual lesson in the above act of Jesus. The temple of mind, during prayer, should not be a place where the thoughts of material gain persist. Many people, during prayer, carry in the background of their minds the thought of buying and selling of material things and the profit thereof. Jesus says this is disastrous because it brings neither God nor prosperity.

During meditation, as often as the money changers of material thoughts come to your mind, so often should you make a scourge of calmness, formed out of the gathered will power acquired throughout life, and drive out the restless material thoughts from your temple.



John 2:13-17

## Money Changers, Part 2

“And Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and found in the Temple those that sold oxen and sheep, and doves, and the changers of money, sitting. And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the Temple, and the sheep and the oxen; and poured out the changers’ money, and overthrew the tables; and said unto them that sold doves, ‘TAKE THESE THINGS HENCE: MAKE NOT MY FATHER’S HOUSE AN HOUSE OF MERCHANDISE.’ And His disciples remembered that it was written, ‘The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.’” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

In the forgoing passages, it looks as if such a great Son of God as Jesus should not have become angry and made a scourge of cords with which to hit the money-changers. In this action of Jesus it looks as if He contradicted His own saying: “But I say unto you, that ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.”—Matt., 5:39

Jesus used the cord more or less to scare these grown-up ignorant children of God (His brethren) and to send them away so that they could not desecrate the House of God. He meant that merchandise in the House of Prayer was a distraction, just as an altar and preaching in the shop would be a distraction. Jesus, in this act, tried to show people that they should

concentrate on one thing at a time. In the house of business they should think of selling articles. In the House of God they should think of Him. Besides, Jesus, with his little cord, didn't hurt anyone, nor was He actually angry internally. He put on a show of anger to frighten the big, naughty children who were trading in God's House. If Jesus had been really angry, He would have used His Divine powers to destroy these desecrators of God's Temple.

This is well illustrated by an old Hindu story. Once upon a time, long, long ago, a venomous, vicious serpent used to live in a hole in the hill on the outskirts of a village. A hermit of great miraculous power also made his home in this village. Many of the villagers' children, who ventured to play around the hill, were attacked by this vicious serpent, and stung to death. The serpent extremely resented any noise around its dwelling. The villagers tried their utmost to kill the serpent, but met with no success. Failing in this, the villagers went in a body to their local hermit and asked him to find a remedy to prevent the death-dealing work of the serpent.

Yielding to the legitimate prayers of the villagers, the hermit went near the hole in the hill, where the serpent resided, and by his spiritual powers summoned the serpent to appear in his presence. The master hermit scolded the serpent for stinging the villagers' children to death, and instructed him never to bite again, but to practice loving his enemies.

The hermit left the village for a year on a pilgrimage and as he was returning to the village by way of the hill, he thought, "Let me see how my friend the serpent is behaving." As he approached the hole in the hill, he found the serpent lying half dead with several stitches in his back, in front of the hole.

The hermit said, "Hello, Mr. Serpent, what's all this?" The serpent dolefully whispered, "Master, this is the result of practicing your teaching. Whenever I came out of my hole in quest of food and minded my own business, the village boys noticed my docility and refusal to attack them, and then they threw small stones at me, and when they found me running away from them, they made it their business to throw big stones at me, with the object of killing me. Master, I dodged many times, but also got badly hurt many times, and now I am lying here with several stitches in my back because I have been trying to love my enemies."

Then the village hermit looked at him and said rebukingly, "Fool, I told you not to sting to death, but why didn't you hiss and scare them away?"

This story illustrates that a person, although meek and spiritual, should not be spineless or without common sense, and allow himself to be made into a doormat. When provoked or unnecessarily attacked, the spiritual man should try to scare his enemies away by a show of anger or strength, but without getting really angry internally. However, one should never hiss, even with a show of anger, if he has the tendency to bite or to materially injure anybody. That is what Jesus did. He hissed at the money changers and scared them away, but did not injure them or become really angry himself. Instead, he tried to put sense into them so that they would not incur bad Karma (results of evil action) by blasphemy against the Temple of God.

Jesus said, "Take these material things away, for they spread material vibrations and evoke material thoughts. In the Temple of God people should think only of possessing the imperishable Infinite, but if material articles are sold in the Temple, they arouse, in the spiritual novice, thoughts of greed and desire for possessing perishable material things and distract him from God."

Jesus knew the law of vibration, which is that each object or person throws out a magnetic vibration, thus producing specific thoughts. The vibration of a candle in the church throws out the symbolical thought of unruffled peace or of the light of Wisdom, whereas, oxen in the church remind one of the slaughter house or of farm labor, and so forth. Jesus signified that the church should be so equipped that it would emanate only spiritual vibrations.

Jesus distinctly advises that churches should be places of worship and not places for the sale of material thought-arousing objects. It is all right to sell Bibles or books in the Temples if they are sold with a spirit of rendering continuous spiritual service. Using the proceeds from the sale of spiritual books in order to print more spiritual books, or using the money for some other spiritual purpose, is all right; whereas a gun sold in a church is contradictory to the vibration of the Holy Place.



John 2:17

## **“Destroy this Temple..”**

“The zeal of thine house has eaten me up..” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

The disciples corroborated the words of Jesus with scriptural sayings, which intimate that the material zeal or vibration swallows up the spiritual vibration of God.

Then answered the Jews and said unto Him, “What sign showest Thou unto us, seeing that Thou doest these things?” Jesus answered and said unto them, “DESTROY THIS TEMPLE, AND IN THREE DAYS I WILL RAISE IT UP.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [John 2:18-19]

The Jews wanted a Divine Proof that He was of God, since Jesus took upon Himself the responsibility of driving the money changers from the Temple. In other words, the Jews meant that it was illegal for Jesus to drive away the money changers unless He had Divine authority greater than human laws to do so.



It is beautiful to see that Jesus accepted this challenge in a peculiar Divine way. He did not employ a new miracle to convince the Jews of His greatness. He simply told them what was going to happen. Jesus was not in a hurry to convince His enemies. He only said this to demonstrate the wish and work of God in His life. Jesus thought that no other proof of His divinity could be greater than the telling about a future event in which God was to perform the miracle of miracles by rebuilding His crucified body after three days. (What Jesus meant has been sever times described and performed by the Yogis of India.)

Human nature is composed of three qualities; namely, good, evil, and activating qualities. The soul of man has three dresses: the ideational, astral, and physical, just as we put on an undergarment, a suit, and an overcoat. The Soul of man can only be liberated from the bondage of mortal Karma and limitation when it rises above the desires of the physical, Astral, and Spiritual bodies. It take three distinct efforts for the Soul to leave the physical, Astral, and Ideational bodies.

Some people take years and many incarnations to accomplish this, but Jesus knew, advanced as He was, that He would be able to liberate His Soul from the limitations of three bodies by three distinct efforts in three days, and would be able to unite it with the unlimited power of the Spirit.

It is only when Souls, by desirelessness, are free of the limitations of these three bodies, that they are not compelled to remain in the Astral or to reincarnate in the physical. It is then that they are imbued with the power of God to re-create any dead body, even as He can. Jesus knew that once He was out of the three bodies, He would demonstrate His Oneness with the Father, and His powers, by re-creating His crucified body as no one could except His Heavenly Father.

There is a story that the East Indian Saint, Kabir, told his Hindu and Mohammedan disciples that he would never die, and yet, when he lay in his coffin dead, the first thing his Hindu and Mohammedan disciples did was to doubt the truth of his saying about his deathlessness, and they began to fight with one another. The Hindus wanted to cremate his dead body, and the Mohammedans insisted on entombing it.

At last they fought so hard that their Master Kabir could not keep still any longer and he broke the after-death paramount vow of silence and rose up in his coffin and rebuked his disciples. "Look, you dreamt that I was dead. Lo! I am even living in the body. Since I told you not to fight about

anything and then you quarreled about my dead dream body, I will convert it into the same Divine Cosmic Dream from which it came.” Saying this, and blessing them, he said, “Whatever is left in the coffin, half of that bury, and half of it cremate.

When the disciples lifted the coffin lid, they found that their Master had dematerialized the body and left in its stead a few golden flowers. The Hindus cremated half of these flowers, and the Mohammedans buried the remaining half.

It is said from an authoritative source that our great Guru (preceptor) Shyama Charan Lahiri Mahasaya of India consciously left his body when his life work was finished, and that he appeared again in the flesh the next day in three places.

Great saints of India, who have lived knowing and contacting God in their lives, have been known to raise their bodies after death both before and after the time of Christ. It is reported that some saints, like our greatest Guru Babaji, never experience the so-called human death, but keep their bodies for centuries, and through Eternity, enjoying communion with the Infinite God and as the specific finite body.

One can see the ocean without the waves, or one can see the ocean as the ocean in the waves. Likewise, some souls see God without the finite body or any delusive waves of Creation, and yet others may behold God as the Infinite become the finite, or the body. In the latter case, the soul beholds God become the wave of one or more souls. Babaji, the great Guru, experiences himself not apart from God, but perceives that He has become Babaji, you, and me, and all manifestation. In the ultimate experience, one does not lose his Soul or individuality. One only expands it and finds that God has become one's soul.

The little Soul-Wave, tossed by the storm of dark ignorance, finds itself isolated from the Ocean of Spirit, but when the sunshine of highest wisdom comes, the little Soul-Wave finds that the Ocean of Spirit has become the Soul-Wavelet.



John 4:5-10

## Caste and Living Water

“Then cometh He to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob’s well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well; and it was about the sixth hour. There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water. Jesus saith unto her: “GIVE ME TO DRINK.” (For his disciples were gone away into the city to buy meat.)

Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him: “How is it that Thou, being a Jew, asketh drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? For the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.” Jesus answered and said unto her: “IF THOU KNEWEST THE GIFT OF GOD, AND WHO IT IS THAT SAITH UNTO THEE, ‘GIVE ME TO DRINK,’ THOU WOULDST HAVE ASKED OF HIM, AND HE WOULD HAVE GIVEN THEE LIVING WATER.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted.)

### Why Jesus Needed To Go to Samaria

It is evident that Jesus, like all great prophets, reincarnated at the same time as His great disciples of past lives. Jesus brought along with him his twelve disciples. They had qualified themselves in past incarnations and so were fit to be the close disciples of Jesus in His inner circle. As has been shown in a previous chapter, John the Baptist was the Guru-Preceptor of Jesus in a former incarnation and He acknowledged him as such by saying,

“This is the way of all righteousness,” meaning that the ultimate path of righteousness can only be found by following the directions of the Guru, or the vehicle chosen by God to bring the devotee disciples to His kingdom. When one has spasmodic desires to know God, he meets Spiritual teachers, but when one whole-heartedly wishes to know the Almighty, God chooses the spirituality and intelligence of a human Guru to bring the devotee unto Him.

Jesus knew the difference between disciples of a past incarnation and those who came to him for the first time for enlightenment. However, the betrayal by Judas shows that even close disciples of a great Master like Jesus are by no means completely perfect. That is why the Guru-Preceptor has to come back on earth voluntarily until all his disciples become liberated. The Soul of the Guru-Preceptor and the Soul of the disciple enter into an everlasting covenant of friendship that they will come back on earth for one another until both Souls are finally redeemed. Sometimes, the real Guru-Preceptor, instead of coming on earth, appears in vision to redeem the disciple.

It appears that Jesus purposely planned to go to Samaria and sat on Jacob’s well and knowingly asked the low-caste woman of Samaria to give him a drink. This Samaritan woman was a morally lost disciple of some past incarnation whom Jesus came to redeem. Her truthfulness, when admitting the fact that she had no husband because she had five, shows the genuine quality of her Soul. Her degradation was temporary and lay like a clay-crust over the hidden glow of her pure truth-loving Soul.

### **How Caste Originates**

We see that the people in the time of Jesus differentiated between the high-caste Jews and the low-caste Samaritans. All castes originate in the vocations which people follow. In India, those who worshipped God, or the clergy, were called Brahmins; the soldiers were called Khatriyas; the businessmen, Baisyas; the laborers, such as sweepers, and so forth, were called Sudras or Kayasthas. The first three castes intermarried and ate together, but had nothing to do with the last caste because of their filthy mode of living.

This caste division became rigid in time, and instead of being based on quality and vocation, began to be based on heredity. This permanently

excluded an educated, Spiritual Sudra, no matter how great he was, from socially mingling with Brahmins, no matter how spiritually degenerated they were. A son of a Brahmin claimed to be a Brahmin even though he never worshipped God and even though he led the life of a Sudra (low caste individual).

A son of a soldier claimed to be a Khatriya, even though he never saw a weapon. This brought the downfall of India, for when the soldiers lost out in battle against foreign aggressors, the Brahmins and Baisyas refused to fight. Real caste should be elastic and should be governed by the principal vocation of an individual. This caste rigidity, in spite of its manifold evils, protected the Aryan stock from getting mixed with all kinds of foreign races.

Intermarriage between people of equal culture is productive of some good, according to the law of eugenics. Mahatma Gandhi is trying to destroy the hereditary law of caste division which has kept India divided and held under foreign domination. A Brahmin, when he fights, should be called a soldier or Khatriya, and a soldier, when he adopts the vocation of preaching, should be called Brahmin. Likewise, a man of low caste, when he becomes illumined, should be called Brahmin.

There is an esoteric significance about the four castes which consists in the four states of consciousness of a devotee who aspires to know God. When he remains identified with his body, or engrossed in flesh pleasures, he is called Kayastha (Kaya sthita manah jasya—one whose mind is settled on the flesh). When the devotee begins to cultivate his mind or starts the business of acquiring Spiritual wealth, he is called Baisya, or business man. All individuals who principally carry on the Spiritual business of self-improvement are called Baisyas.

In the third state, the devotee fights with the senses for Spiritual victory and is then said to have reached the Khatriya state. Any individual who passes his life warring with temptation is called a Khatriya, or Spiritual soldier. Last of all, when the devotee knows Brahman or Spirit, he is said to be in the Brahmin state. Any individual who remains identified with the Supreme Spirit should be called Brahmin.

You see, the above Spiritual caste system does not prevent any low caste or any individual from being called a Brahmin if he qualitatively proves himself to be one, but the hereditary caste system is selfish and unjust and uses heredity to broadcast evil and division and thus should be abolished.

Jesus knew no artificial race barrier, as the woman of Samaria understood it, and therefore he asked her for a drink. He also asked her for a drink in order to get acquainted with her when the disciples were gone, so that he could give her the everlasting elixir of life without disturbance.

Jesus hinted to the woman of Samaria (when He said, “If Thou knewest the gift of God and who it is that saith to thee,”) that God had gifted her in previous incarnations with the greatest of all gifts, a Divine Savior (Guru) who had followed her to this life to redeem her. Jesus was trying to awaken the dormant memory of the past in his fallen disciple. Thus Jesus meant that if she knew that her Guru of the past was asking for the drink, she would, instead, have asked Him for the living water of God’s contact.

“The woman saith unto Him: ‘Sir, Thou hast nothing to draw with, and the well is deep: from whence, then, hast Thou that living water? Art Thou greater than our father Jacob, which gave us the well, and drank thereof himself, and his children and his cattle?’” Jesus answered and saith unto her: **WHOSOEVER DRINKETH OF THIS WATER SHALL THIRST AGAIN; BUT WHOSOEVER DRINKETH OF THE WATER THAT I SHALL GIVE HIM SHALL NEVER THIRST; BUT THE WATER THAT I SHALL GIVE HIM SHALL BE IN HIM A WELL OF WATER SPRINGING UP INTO EVERLASTING LIFE.**” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [John 4:11-14]

The woman of Samaria, steeped in ignorance, could not yet understand what Jesus meant by “living water,” hence her foolish question: “From whence, then, hast Thou the living water?”

Jesus, to elucidate what he meant by “living water,” said in effect that: “Whosoever drinks of the material water will live by material food only and will die with that consciousness. He will have to reincarnate again due to the presence of material desires accompanying the Soul after death. To die, depending upon material water and food, will bring the Soul back to the earth again because of latent thirst for material things in the heart.

Jesus said that whosoever drinks of the fountain of Eternal Bliss in God will have all the thirst of desires of all his incarnations quenched forever. Such God-drinking Souls, finding the everlasting well of Bliss within themselves, are never thirsty for the satisfaction of mortal desires or

mortal life. Mortal desires promise happiness and then always give sorrow instead.

The Soul cannot find its lost happiness in material things, though it seeks comfort in them. The Soul, losing its contact with God-Bliss, tries to satisfy itself by pseudo-sense pleasures. The Soul of even the most worldly person is inwardly conscious of its lost supernal Bliss, and that is why it can never remain satisfied for long with temporary sense pleasures only, no matter how alluring they may be. The worldly man goes on searching for his lost happiness in God by flying from one sense pleasure to another. At last, when he suffers from satiety, he begins to seek God-Bliss within, where alone it can be found.

If one loses a diamond and tries to satisfy himself with little pieces of broken glass, shining with sunlight, he is bound to be disillusioned. He cannot find the diamond in the pile of broken glass. He is seeking in the wrong place and so can never be happy unless he seeks in the right place and finds the diamond. In the same way, the Soul tries to find its happiness in the momentarily glittering sense pleasures, but when it has enough of sense happiness, it becomes disgusted and tries to find peace and joy in the Soul.

This is the supreme reason why people should seek happiness in God and not in material things. It is foolish to expect true happiness from material things, for they are powerless to give it, and yet many millions of people die of broken hearts trying vainly to find the comfort in material things which God alone can impart in the temple of meditation.



John 4:15-24

## The Woman at the Well

“The woman said unto Jesus: ‘Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw.’ Jesus said unto her: ‘GO, CALL THY HUSBAND, AND COME HITHER.’”

“The woman answered and said: ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said unto her: ‘THOU HAST WELL SAID: “I HAVE NO HUSBAND,” FOR THOU HAST HAD FIVE HUSBANDS; AND HE WHOM THOU NOW HAST IS NOT THY HUSBAND; IN THAT SAIDST THOU TRULY.’”  
 (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmstead)

After hearing about the water of everlasting life, the woman of Samaria became desirous of getting it, for she wanted to quench her mortal thirst forever.

Jesus wanted to test the character of his fallen disciple, the woman of Samaria. He wanted to find out the degree of her degradation, so he asked her to call her husband, and when Jesus heard her say that she had no husband, he was pleased. Insincerity, prevarication, and treachery toward a Guru-Preceptor are the greatest sins, for these are deliberate transgressions and, as such, are greater evils than flesh transgressions, which are to a considerable extent due to instinctive compulsion.

Some Souls, due to such transgressions in a past life, are born with a compelling inclination, which overrules almost all sense of shame, church threats, moral sense, social discomfiture, or efforts toward self-control. Such Souls can be helped if they sincerely confess their faults, that is, let their



Spiritual doctor diagnose their moral disease and give mental and moral strength and advice which, if followed, will remedy the malady.

The disciple who practices insincerity toward his Guru-Preceptor not only hides his moral disease, but refuses the healing help of the Master. In this way an error-stricken disciple makes his moral transgression grow upon him. To hide the moral disease from the Spiritual doctor is extremely dangerous to Spiritual health.

Jesus openly manifested his omniscient knowledge by saying to his former fallen disciple: **“THOU HAST HAD FIVE HUSBANDS.”** This mental miracle was performed to convince a fallen disciple who, in a former incarnation, had already shown her faithfulness to the Master.

A Master very seldom attracts a new Soul by a mental miracle other than by the expression of the love of God, but everything is right in its own place. The woman of Samaria witnessed this omniscient power of Jesus because she confessed to a Master, and the Master, out of compassion, let her know that what she told him was in safe hands. This is the reason why Jesus spoke out and proved to her that He already knew what she told him and that he was satisfied with her veracity, and that she had passed the test of true discipleship.

No matter how sinful a disciple is, he can be saved if he is sincere and loyal to his Master, but woe unto the disciple who is insincere to the Master. This display of a miracle was not performed by Jesus in order to satisfy the mental curiosity of a stranger, but to lift a fallen disciple. Thus, the witnessing of the miracle had a salutary effect on the woman of Samaria.

**“The woman said unto him: ‘Sir, I perceive that Thou art a prophet. Out fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship.’” [John 4:19-20]**

Thus the woman of Samaria was convinced that Jesus was a prophet of God, and then she asked Him if Jerusalem or the mountains where her forefathers worshipped was the right place to worship. To this Jesus replied:

**“Woman, believe Me, the hour cometh when you shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Ye worship ye know not what: We know what we worship: For Salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father**

in Spirit and in Truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit; and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.” (ibid.)

### **The Inner Jerusalem**

Herein Jesus spoke of the inner Jerusalem of Self-Realization, the sacred mountain of meditation, where true Souls, devout devotees of God, worship Him in the temple of true Spiritual communion. Though the quiet top of mountains and holy places, sanctified by the presence of Masters, are also fit places of worship, yet they are of no use to restless, materially-minded people. Many worldly people have built temples on hill tops and lived in places of pilgrimage only to make those places dens of matter-worship. That is why Jesus said that true worshippers find God in the temple of omnipresence and worship him not in the imaginary communion of Silence, but in the true communion of Spiritual perception.

Millions of people today worship God in temples and churches, and in holy cities, without ever knowing Him. The reason is obvious. God can only be found in the temple of true intuition, the tabernacle of deep meditation. Jesus distinctly spoke of the difference between the theological priestly ceremonious worship of God and the saintly way of worshipping God in the temple of intuition. A gorgeous temple worth millions of dollars could not lure God by its display of wealth, although it might draw an audience of aristocratic people who love to worship God in the comfort of flesh on cushioned velvet seats.

The omnipresent God, who lives in the temple of the Cosmos with the star-decked dome of Eternity illumined by suns and moons, cannot be lured into the pride-created atomic church of man. In fact, thousands of ministers are so engrossed by church property and the church business of keeping the religious customers together that they forget to meditate and thus establish the church of God within themselves.

To worship God on mountains or in holy places is useless unless one really finds Him in the Spirit. Though God is manifest everywhere, He is in essence present behind the veil of Nature. The devotee has to lift the veil of Nature and see God first that way. After that, the devotee can see God behind Nature. So Jesus said that most people do not know what they worship, but that true devotees, who worship God in the temple of meditation, truly

commune with His omnipresent Spirit, and therefore they know what He is and where He can be communed with.

Jesus also said: “GOD IS A SPIRIT; AND THEY THAT WORSHIP HIM MUST WORSHIP HIM IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH.”

SPIRIT signifies the unmanifested Absolute present in the darkless dark and the lightless light. In the unmanifested Absolute even the categories of space, time, and dimension are non-existent. There abides only ever-existing, ever-conscious, ever-new, blissful Spirit. The word GOD means the manifested, transcendental Being beyond Creation, but existing in relation to Creation. When Creation is dissolved into God, then this God becomes Spirit, the unmanifested Absolute.

Jesus said that as long as a devotee is conscious of manifested Creation and of the delusive things, such as mountains and holy cities, and has the desire to meditate in them, he has not yet attained the ultimate state of enlightenment, and that true worshippers are the reflections of God, the Father, of material Creation. God, manifested as the guiding intelligence of Creation is the Spirit in the unmanifested state, when Creation is dissolved.

Man, being a reflection of God, is a reflection of the unmanifested Spirit. Hence, a true worshipper, if he wants to know the truth about God and himself, must know that God and his Soul are reflections of the unmanifested Absolute. That is, the Spirit, being unmanifested Absolute, wants all His true devotees to know that they are Its emanations. A devotee, unless he knows that the Father of Creation, or God, can exist in the Absolute unmanifested state as pure, ever-conscious Bliss, without the shadows of imperfect Creation, does not know the whole truth about noumenal substance, but is deluded by phenomena, or by the appearance of Truth in Creation.

All devotees who worship God as the manifested intelligence of Creation are gradually taught by Him to worship Him as the unmanifested Absolute, or Spirit.

That is why Jesus said: “BUT THE HOUR COMETH, AND NOW IS, WHEN THE TRUE WORSHIPPERS SHALL WORSHIP THE FATHER IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH; FOR THE FATHER SEEKETH SUCH TO WORSHIP HIM.”

God is Divine Intelligence in Creation. Spirit is Divine Intelligence with Creation dissolved in Him. Hence, any devotee who can only see God as the Father of Creation, of Nature, mountains, and so forth, is still in delusion. The true devotee must learn that God is Spirit, unmanifested Absolute, and must understand the truth about Him as being the ever-existent, ever-conscious, ever-new Bliss without the delusion of a material Cosmos. It is then that the devotee finds emancipation and becomes one with the Spirit.

To truly worship God is to worship Him in Nature and beyond Nature, to worship the substance and the delusive phenomena in it, to worship the ocean of God and its delusive waves of Creation. Since the waves of Creation in appearance, not in essence, distort the ocean of Creation (God), the true vision of God lies in the perception of the Spirit Ocean without the waves of Creation to see God as unmanifested Spirit and the only existing substance, Truth, without experiencing the delusion of matter or phenomena. It is only by worshipping God and Nature, and then by worshipping God as unmanifested Spirit that the devotee reaches the final state of emancipation, from which there is no fall.

Hence, worshippers who see God as Spirit and the only true substance existing, become emancipated. Under the sunlight, you may close your eyes and create a darkness of your own and live and move in it. When you open your eyes, darkness is no more. So, the consciousness of matter is due to our closing the eye of wisdom. When the wisdom eye is opened, the consciousness of relativity of the pairs of opposites, such as birth and death, sorrow and pleasure, good and evil, and so forth, disappear, and the Spirit, as ever-existing, ever-conscious, ever-new Joy is perceived as the only existent substance. Then all Creation, with all the attending evils, are found to be created by ignorance, and all darkness and fears are created by closing the eyes and not by the absence of the light, which always knocks at the closed gates of the eyes to get in.

Modern ministers should learn to worship God in the temple of super-communion, or Samadhi, where the Cosmos, like the shadow of darkness, appears non-existent with the opening of the Eye of Wisdom before the light of the only existing Spirit.



John 4:25-34

## “Meat That Ye Know Not Of...”

### Part 1

The woman said unto him: “I know that the Messias(*I*) cometh which is called Christ; when he is come, he will tell us all things.” Jesus said unto her: “I THAT SEPAK UNTO THEE AM HE.”

And upon this came his disciples and marveled that he talked with the woman; yet no man said: What seekest Thou?” or, “Why talkest Thou with her?” The woman then left her water pot and went her way into the city, and said unto the men: “Come, see a man who told me all things that I ever did: Is not this the Christ?” Then they went out of the city and came unto Him.

In the meanwhile, His disciples prayed Him, saying: “Master, eat.” But he said unto them: “I HAVE MEAT TO EAT, THAT YE KNOW NOT OF.” Therefore, said the disciples one to another: “Hath any man brought him aught to eat?” Jesus said unto them: “MY MEAT IS TO DO THE WILL OF HIM THAT SENT ME, AND TO FINISH HIS WORK.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

When the woman of Samaria said: “I know that the Messias cometh,” and so on, she had unconsciously received the telepathic message of God and Christ’s presence as to who Jesus was.

Most of the time, in India, great Saints purposely remain hidden, and unless they choose some one to know of their greatness, they cannot be recognized even by people intimately mixing with them. In this case, God wanted to declare the glory of Jesus through the woman of Samaria, who was being made a test case of the Spiritual healing of Souls. (This woman of Samaria, who had had five husbands, was healed of her evil life through the Spiritual healing of Jesus.) Jesus confirms and thereby reinforces her telepathic message by letting her know the truth about Himself.

### **Three Kinds of Healing**

The body is infected with bacteria, poison, and accidents, which involve physical suffering. To free man from bodily ailments constitutes physical healing. The mind of man is infected with fear, worries, melancholia, psychological nervousness, greed, anger, temptation, and jealousy, which cause mental suffering. The healing of psychological diseases is called mental healing.

The soul of man is haunted by ignorance, which produces mental, physical, and all kinds of suffering. Ignorance creates inharmony between mind and body, God and Soul, and in addition creates every other trouble. Jesus knew the relation between mind and body, and God and Soul. That is why he controlled the atomic structure of his bodily cells, and that is why he cried out his saying: “Destroy this body, and in three days I will rebuild it again.”

In fact, ignorance produces in man the consciousness of the body. Divine Souls, who have healed themselves of ignorance, behold the body as a “dream of God,” or “frozen mind of Divinity.” Body and mind, being the image of God, can reflect perpetual youth and everlasting peace. Not to know this is to be spiritually ignorant and to be subject to all kinds of physical and mental ailments.

If you close your eyes and enter a palatial room, you see darkness instead of the presence of beautiful things in the room. When you open your eyes and remove darkness, you forget the existence of self-created gloom and behold only light and the beautiful things in the room. So, also, when the eyes of wisdom are closed, you are submerged in the gloom of ignorance, witnessing physical and mental agonies, but when you open the eyes of knowledge by meditation, you behold the presence of God’s light and all the

beautiful experiences of lasting youth, everlasting peace, immortality, and so forth.

The world has yet to discover the highest human achievement, which Jesus and the great Saints are enjoying even today, and have been enjoying ever since they freed themselves from mortal ignorance, and they will enjoy that celestial blessedness to the end of endlessness.

It must be noted that physical suffering does not always bring mental agony if the mind is strong. Martyrs have smilingly been burned at the stake, but mental suffering usually brings physical suffering. When the Soul is sick, the body and mind are automatically subject to physical and mental suffering. Therefore, ignorance is the greatest of all suffering and must be removed.

### **Healing of the Soul Is the Greatest Good**

The greatest of all healing which Jesus wanted to perform was the healing of Souls. Everyone, by holding to the after-effects of meditation, and by steadily looking into the eyes of recipient Souls and strongly wishing them to be healed of mortal ignorance, can bring God into the lives of men, but one must be healed in his own Soul first before he can aspire to heal others. That is why Jesus spoke of becoming the “fishers of men.” That means the art of fishing Souls out of the sea of ignorance by catching them in the net of wisdom and bringing them to the table of God’s immortality.

The one purpose that Jesus had in declaring Himself as Christ to the woman of Samaria was that He wanted her to know that He had the all-healing Christ Consciousness in Him, that He was omniscient and knew of her morally sick Soul, and that He could heal her. Jesus could not be accused of self-laudation, nor of revealing His power of mind reading. He had one object in view in His talking thus to the woman of Samaria, and that was to heal her Soul, and that is why He did not wait to be introduced to her but saw her alone. Jesus, considerate as He was, did not want to embarrass the woman before His disciples by telling her that she had had five husbands.

### **Why Our Thoughts Are Secret**

God has given to each Soul the right to hide his thoughts and to fight his battles in secret instead of before others’ curiosity and prying, which

would cause sarcasm and hatred. If there were not invisible walls between our thoughts, we could do nothing and think nothing in peace, nor would we have the right to receive our own knocks and score our own victories.

We get little inklings of the thoughts of others in the expressions of their faces and eyes. That makes our lives all the more mysterious and interesting. So many times we jump at conclusions about the thoughts of others and make horrible blunders, and many times we learn to read their thoughts correctly. Our blunders in such psychological reading teaches us to be cautious and prevents self-sufficiency, which arises from our correct reading of the thoughts of others.

The disciples marveled when Jesus talked to such a common woman, yet the pure vibrations of Jesus could not bring any criticism from the disciples. That is why nobody asked: “Why talkest Thou with her?”

The woman of Samaria was so overwhelmed with the Soul-healing power of Jesus that in her Divine Joy she told of all her moral blemishes and the wonderful Soul-healing which she received from Jesus. She, being healed, also became the first messenger to declare Jesus the Christ.

“Then they went out of the city and came unto him, saying: “Master, eat.” But he said unto them: “I HAVE MEAT TO EAT THAT YE KNOW NOT OF.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [John 4:32]

The mind of Jesus was filled with Christ Consciousness and the Soul-healing that he had accomplished in the woman of Samaria, so He laughed at the idea of supplying the body with food, when He knew that He was a Soul, and the only meat it eternally nourished itself on was the blessedness and eternal wisdom of God. Jesus was trying to heal His disciples of the delusion of ignorance, which caused them to think that He had to eat in order to live. Jesus said once before: “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”

(1) The word “Messias” comes from the Hebrew word “Mashiakh” or “Anointed,” the expected King and deliverer of the Hebrews—Latin: Christus, Messiah)





John 4:33-38

## **“Meat That Ye Know Not Of..”**

### **Part 2**

Therefore, said the disciples one to another: “Hath any man brought him aught to eat?” Jesus said unto them: “My meat is to do the will of Him that sent Me, and to finish His work. Say not ye, there are yet four months and then cometh harvest. Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields: For they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages and gathereth fruit unto life Eternal; that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, one soweth and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labor; other men labored, and ye are entered into their labors. (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

The disciples erroneously thought that Jesus had already had some food when He said: “I have meat to eat that ye know not of.” Ordinary food temporarily nourishes the perishable body and gives it a passing pleasure arising from the sense of taste. Jesus was telling his disciples that to human eyes, although his body needed food, his real Self tasted the ever-satisfying, eternally-nourishing manna of Divine Wisdom and Celestial ever-new Bliss. The disciples did not know how to nourish their Souls.

I often find in homes comprised of materially minded members that most of the members wake up in the morning with the consciousness of a cup of coffee, toast, and ham and eggs, and go to sleep at night thinking of beefsteak. In the Spiritual homes in India, the home members think first in the morning of drinking the cool nectar of Peace from the bowl of deep contemplation, and they think of the voice of Divine Peace singing softly, inviting them to rest on the bosom of Divine Peace.

Upon wakening in the morning, and at night before going to sleep, and at meal time, people should fumigate their material consciousness with the thought of God. The idea is to remain in the world but not to be of the world. To remain unattached like the dewdrop on the lotus leaf, is to be really happy, ready to slip the consciousness into God. The dewdrop cannot slide on a blotting paper, so the average Soul cannot keep the mind free to slip into God if he associates with materially-minded people who are attached to things.

Jesus repulsed the idea of food, not because He thought that it was unnecessary for Him to eat, but because He wished to show to the disciples that the consciousness of man should be predominantly on God, the ever-satisfying food, and not on a material diet.

Jesus said that, as meat is loved by most people, so His relish consisted in doing the will of God cheerfully and not like a puppet. Prophets have come for the distinct purpose of filling a world need according to the Cosmic Divine plan. Jesus knew how long He was to stay on earth, and realized the possibility of being crucified, and so forth. He was aware of the stupendous mission He had to perform on earth while He lived. "TO FINISH HIS WORK" signifies the finishing of the Divine Task which was His part to carry out during His incarnation as Jesus, and not the work of redemption which He has to carry throughout Eternity. Jesus used the parable of the sower, the laborer, the harvesting time, and the harvest to illustrate the superior law of the Divine Harvester. In ordinary farming there is a great deal of labor, and the harvest comes in about four months after planting, but Jesus said that the Spiritual harvest is not a matter of waiting, laboring, and then acquiring the Spiritual harvest, but it is a matter of knowing that one already, in a latent form, possesses in his Divine Image all the inheritance of the Divine Father. When this knowledge comes, the contact of God instantaneously manifests itself in the Soul from beneath the wisdom-seared veil of ignorance.

Jesus said that all one has to do is to lift the consciousness from the play of material vibrations to the ever-ready harvest of wisdom, glistening on the fields of pure white Cosmic Consciousness. Human wisdom has to be acquired gradually through the medium of the limited senses and intelligence, but Divine Wisdom can be grasped instantaneously through the medium of Intuition, which is developed by meditation.

The idea is that if one closes his eyes, he shuts out the light, and the minute one opens his eyes, he perceives light. In the same way, the minute one opens his eyes of wisdom, he beholds the light of God. This is great consolation, for the mortal law is governed by the law of “as you sow, so shall you reap.”

To reach perfection as a mortal through this law, one has to travel through endless incarnations, which is almost an impossibility, but to know oneself through meditation as the Son of God is to claim instantaneously the forgotten Divine Inheritance.

As human beings, we need to acquire everything; as children of God, we do not have to acquire, but we need only to realize that we already know everything. The human harvest has to be sown and reaped, and then enjoyed for a short time, but the Divine Harvest has only to be reaped and enjoyed throughout Eternity.

Jesus said not to waste time becoming materially rich, only to lose what you get through great effort, but He said to just make the effort to know what you have as a Divine Child by taking off the death-mask of mortal consciousness from the Immortal face of the Soul, and to enjoy the eternal harvest of Bliss in God.

Some people may say: “Well, it takes great effort to be Spiritual.” I say: “No.” The only effort we have to make is to forget our unspiritual mortal consciousness, and as soon as that is done, we know we are gods. He who reaps Divine Wisdom through meditation receives the wages of Eternal Wisdom, and he gathers the forgotten fruits of ever-new Bliss as the result.

“That both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together,” signifies that God, as the Sower of Wisdom in Souls, is pleased when He finds that His true children reap the harvest grown by Him and not the harvest of evil sown and reaped by mortal ignorance.

“One soweth, and the other reapeth” signifies that God is the only Sower, the only Source of Wisdom, and that we, as His children, must reap what He has already grown for us.

Jesus says that God sent people to reap the harvest of Wisdom and Bliss stacked in their Souls, for which no human effort was made. We have, by meditation, only to rise above our self-created nightmares of human miseries, that is all; then we shall instantaneously remember our forgotten image of God. In the world, just forgetting poverty does not make us rich. We have to acquire riches, but as God’s children we immediately become Divine, endowed with all powers, the minute we forget our self-created mortal consciousness by deep meditation.

It is easy for all of us to be a Jesus Christ in one life by proper meditation because we are potentially already Sons of God, made in His image, but for all of us to try to become rich like Henry Ford is almost an impossibility because of the limitations of earthly life.

“Other men labored and ye are entered into their labors” means that other mortal Souls labor for perishable material things and you foolishly imitate them and struggle on for something you cannot have. Rather, by meditation and calmness, open your age-long closed eyes of wisdom, and in the light of awakening find yourself as the owner of the entire Cosmos.



John 4:39-42

## **The One Real Way By Which a Saint Should Become Known**

“And many of the Samaritans of that city believed on Him for the saying of the woman, who testified: ‘He told me all that I ever did.’ So when the Samaritans were come unto Him, they besought Him that He would tarry with them; and He abode there two days. And many more believed because of His own word; and said unto the woman: ‘Now we believe, not because of thy saying, for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.’” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

### **About Advertising Truth**

The above paragraph shows the way a prophet like Jesus Christ became known to the public. The one real way by which a Saint should become known is by the testimony from the lips of benefited students. Many people believed in Jesus because of the testimony of the woman of Samaria. Honest, true testimonials of students as to their Master’s real qualities, may not be of any Spiritual benefit to him, but they enable him to become known, so that through his power of wisdom he can serve the people, if he wants to serve, and if the spiritually needy want to receive his help.

A flower needs no advertisement, and yet, its fragrance experienced by a few, may be told to those who did not experience its sweetness. The fragrant blossom of a Spiritual man hiding in a cave, selfishly enjoying God

alone, is born to blush and die unseen, without benefiting others with the solace of acquired wisdom.

Consciously developed Spiritual Souls, no matter how they love seclusion, never act like the inert beautiful blossom which dies in an unknown nook without making anybody happy with its sweetness. Great Saints who experience the intoxicating joy of God-contact always love to share their Divine happiness with others, and demonstrate their Spiritual healing powers to worthy Souls. This serves a double purpose: the worthy souls are benefited, and when they feel better, they sincerely tell of their teacher's ability to serve and to heal.

The teacher should advertise through example and not merely by words, or by both example and advice. If it is right to advertise chewing gum, it is better to advertise real wisdom and thoughts which people can chew mentally, and assimilate for their highest Spiritual nourishment. It is only deplorable when commercial teachers, without practicing what they preach, try to impart their knowledge to others, and glaringly advertise it with only one end in view that of making money. To advertise untruth is harmful, but to draw the attention of people to a usable, beneficial, Spiritual Truth or to a good teacher, is admirable. A flower even advertises by its fragrance, calling people to come near and bathe in its fountain of sweetness. So, a Spiritual man draws eager Souls to himself by the perfume of his own qualities.

The woman of Samaria told of the telepathic power of Jesus, which he demonstrated to her, not for the sake of satisfying her curiosity, but for the purpose of lifting her from the pitfalls of error. A Spiritual teacher of high standing only demonstrates the power of the mind in order to glorify God, not himself. He turns the attention of his students, not to the delusive desire of acquiring miracles, but to God alone. In the course of planting the seed of God-Wisdom in a Soul, a Master Mind is entirely guided by God as to whether he shall draw the student to Truth by the demonstration of a miracle, or by the pure magnetic power of undiluted God-devotion. Those teachers who demonstrate miracles without consulting God usually love to advertise their own little power, and thus fall away from concentrating upon the mightiest miracle of all miracles—God.

Jesus, actuated by Divine Will, tried to uplift the woman of Samaria by the demonstration of a miracle. Most people are attracted to a teacher through the testimonial of benefited students, but there are others who have

the keen perception to recognize and believe in a teacher by tuning in with his emanating Spiritual vibrations. There were others who believed in Jesus, not through the testimony of the woman of Samaria, but after they heard Him and felt His Spiritual vibrations within them. It is all right to believe in the testimony of a student about a teacher or a Truth, but it is better for real students to satisfy their own hearts by trying out the Truth, or by contacting the teacher, and thus place their convictions on the indestructible foundation of wisdom, and not on the shaky basis of doubt.

## **Telepathy**

Many people may wonder how Jesus knew about the woman of Samaria's life history. Did Jesus read her thoughts from her subconscious, conscious, or superconscious mind? If a person holds the mirror of his mind absolutely still, free from the oscillations of restless thoughts, he can reflect within him the thoughts which pass through the consciousness of another person. This is only possible when one is versed in the art of remaining without thinking as long as he wants to. When this is attained, then, on the virgin, unexposed plate of his mind, he can photograph any thought that is present in the conscious mind of another individual.

It entails greater mental power to know the buried subconscious thought experiences of others. Subconscious thoughts usually do not remain in the conscious mind, but are hidden behind its doors. By consciously projecting the subconscious mind of one person into the subconscious mind of another person, one can know the tabloid of thought experiences hidden there. It is possible to do this when one can go into his own subconscious mind by concentrating and can feel the experiences hidden there without being intruded upon by the thoughts of the conscious mind.

In the third still greater way, a Master Mind who has control of his all-seeing eye of deepest concentration can transfer his consciousness to the deepest region of Bliss of the superconscious mind. The superconscious mind hides behind the restlessness of conscious life and the fanciful dream state of subconscious life, and knows everything not by reason or sense perception, but by the direct all-knowing power of God-given intuition. This intuitive power can be developed by learning the step-by-step methods of Self-Realization, and by deepest meditation.

When this superconscious intuition is developed, it can instantly feel all that is going on in the consciousness of another individual, all that is lying hidden in his subconscious mind, and all his prenatal experiences of former incarnations. Jesus had this usable, controlled power of superconscious intuition, with which he instantly knew everything that lay hidden in the conscious, subconscious, and superconscious mind of the woman of Samaria.





John 4:43-44

## The Healing Power of Thought

Nobleman of Capernaum:

“Now, after two days, he departed thence, and went into Galilee. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified of all.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

Before Jesus healed the son of the nobleman, he observed the general mentality of the people, in that they never believed in God until they saw signs and wondrous miracles. In a way, Jesus was telling the nobleman, whose son was at the point of death in Capernaum, that it was not His custom to perform miracles in order to make people believe in God.

Jesus preferred those people who loved God as a result of their own innate reasoning and perfect accord, rather than those who were compelled to believe in God as a result of the awe and fear they felt at the display of miracles. In other words, Almighty God prefers to have His children use their own free will and reason to love Him rather than be led to love Him through the force of His miraculous powers. Jesus wanted the nobleman of Capernaum to believe in Him without the performance of the miraculous healing of his son. However, when the father insisted, through true faith, Jesus at last said: “Go thy way; thy son liveth.”

After this, the nobleman believed, or rather sensed, the vibratory healing power of Jesus and went home. On his return home, the nobleman was greeted by his servant, who happily announced to him that his son had been living since the day before at the seventh hour. In absent healing the

word of healing has to be spoken by the healer. If songs can float through the ether, ready to be caught out of the ether by a radio, so it is that broadcasted healing vibrations can be picked up by sensitive Soul radios.

### **How the Law of Healing Operates**

In this healing it must be remembered that the nobleman's son became well immediately when Jesus spoke; that is, when Jesus set in motion His will-impregnated healing Soul Force in the ether. Jesus broadcasted the God-given healing vibrations and they were received by the nobleman, who relayed them to his son, just as songs, broadcasted at 7 A.M. from Los Angeles, reach New York at exactly the same time. This happens because sound is carried by infinitely fast-moving omnipresent electrons in the ether.

If sound waves can be carried through the ether, then sounds impregnated with healing Soul Force can also be transmitted through the ether. Ordinary songs and speeches, received through the radio, produce some mental effect upon the listener, but words impregnated with Soul Force remain in the ether, ever ready to work.

Jesus impregnated His utterance with His Almighty healing power. Ordinary songs and thoughts transmitted over the radio give only momentary inspiration, but the words of Jesus, "Thy son liveth," contained in them the all-accomplishing, invisible healing power. As the energy in the body can be directed by the will to move any part of the body, so also, by omnipresent Divine Will, any atomic changes can be initiated in any body, in any thing, and at any place, no matter how far distant.

God had a reason for creating the Cosmos; then He willed it, and light or energy came. Then He willed that the light become flesh and earth. Hence, the Universe, being a product of Divine Mind, can be changed by Divine Mind at any time. Matter, although it has dimensions, is not different from thought, for material objects are nothing but the frozen thought of God. Hence, the body and the life in it, are dream products of God's will and thought. The dream Cosmos, with the earth and the living Beings on it, are sustained by God's concentrated thought. If He should dissolve His dream, the Universe, with all things in it, would melt away like a dream. If the Cosmos is made of the frozen thought of God, then the human body is also made and sustained by the same Divine Thought. Hence, God's thought,

being the Creator of the thought-body, can create changes in it through the power of Divine Will.

Jesus realized that, since God brought the body of the son of the nobleman into existence through His thought, so also His Almighty Power could produce the desired change in it. God's will and thought created all things, and those people who are in tune with God's will and thought can produce any desired changes in matter or in human bodies instantaneously, merely by concentrated thought.

The nobleman thought that his son was sick, but Jesus thought differently, and so the son recovered. Jesus was able to displace the dream of sickness in the son by a dream of health, because He knew that the entire Cosmos was made of the tissue of dreams. Ultimately, all disease is found to be psychological, so a strong mind, fostering thoughts of health and perfection, can displace a stubborn thought of illness in another person.

Most people cannot heal themselves because their own thoughts are poisoned by the habit of thinking of chronic sickness. It is strange that the people who are always well never seem to believe that they can become sick; but if they happen to become sick after having enjoyed fifty years of good health, and are then unable to keep well for three months, they believe that they can never get well again. Right at this time, if a strong mind can revive the will of the patient who is paralyzed with sickness, then he himself can change his thought and energy, and thus heal himself. No one can heal us except through the hidden power of our own thoughts.

Thought is the brain of the cells and units of Life Force present in every particle of bodily tissue. Hence, a disease thought upsets the entire government of the Life Force in the cells, whereas the thought of health corrects any disorder in the cellular system.

It must be remembered that I am speaking of the concentrated Divine Thought which can heal and not of the fanciful thought of imaginary people. In order to move Divine Thought, the ordinary man must know the relation of thought, Life Force, and body without denying the existence of the body thought. The body is the frozen thought and frozen energy of God. Nevertheless, man cannot realize this until he knows that thought is frozen into energy and energy is frozen into the body of man. Many people try to explain away the body delusion.

First, it must be realized that the body is made of invisible electrons, and that electrons are made of the invisible thought of God. Instead of saying that the body does not exist, one should say: "The body is not what we think it is. It is not anything but the frozen thought and energy of God, and cannot be gained by fanatic fancy, or by strong Orthodox belief, but only by tuning in with God and by waking up His consciousness to find that the Cosmos is nothing but His frozen dream.



Luke 4:16-21

## **The Value of a Day of Quiet**

“And He came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day and stood up to read. And there was delivered unto him the Book of the Prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.’ And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, ‘THIS DAY IS THIS SCRIPTURE FULFILLED IN YOUR EARS.’” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted. Chapter VII, Pages 33-34)

### **The value of Sunday worship acknowledged by Jesus**

Jesus went to his native land of Nazareth and in the synagogue, on the Sabbath Day, He stood up to read. Jesus believed that every man should recharge his vitality by the restful silence of the Sabbath. Eating heavy meals on Sundays does not produce rest, but bodily discomfort. Hence, light meals, fruit or vegetable dinners, or even fasting, is good on Sundays. Fasting, or light eating, gives the motors of the stomach and heart rest from their heavy weekly work. Too much eating keeps the mind busy with the body and diverts the attention from God.

The worldly man, saturates his Soul with worries throughout the week and loads his body with excessive food and unassimilated food poisons. Hence, a day of introspective silence gives each individual a chance to think things over and reorganize a balanced mode of living. Sunday sermons and periods of silence recharge the peace-hungry Soul. This Sunday peace, if deeply recharged into the Soul of the business man, may last him throughout the week and help him to battle with his restless mental moods, temptations, and financial worries. If the worldly man gives a whole week to money-making pursuits, eating, and amusements, he should at least give one day to the thought of God, without whom his very life, brain, activity, feeling, and entertainments are impossible.

Sunday worship may not have been necessary to Jesus because every day was to Him a Sun's Day, or Divine Wisdom's Day. However, great men always show good examples in order to help others who imitate them. If Jesus, Spiritual as He was, thought it necessary to go to the Temple on Sundays, why shouldn't sense-habit-driven people do likewise? Sunday prayers recharge the Soul of the average person until, at the end of the week, those Sunday influences begin to wear off; therefore, it is necessary for everyone to recharge his Soul-battery with Sunday silence at least once a week.

The average person usually finds the influence of material habits predominant throughout the week and can seldom retain sufficient of the sacred influences of Sunday worship to last until the following Sunday. Of course, a dime is better than no money at all. Even weekly Sunday sermons suggest to the materially-minded person the necessity of acquiring the peace-producing influence of Sunday silence, but to feel appreciably the predominating influence of Sunday peace one ought to consider early morning, noontime before lunch, and evening before dinner, and especially the quiet time before sleep, as Sundays or real times in which to cultivate habits of peace through meditation. If anyone, even twice, during the earliest hour of dawn and in the depth of night, worships God in the church of meditation for fifteen minutes to one hour, he will find that the Spiritual habits of peace will predominate over his worry-producing material habits.

Of course, the so-called busy man who is busy with foolish, perishable things (such as stocks, bonds, and so forth, which cannot pass through the fiery gates of after-life) until death, must at least make his best effort to worship God in some real church. He must remember not to keep his body in the church and his Soul away concerned with his business

worries. He must worship with a calm body and a quiet mind. If he keeps doing this, he may eventually be inclined to meditate every day.

Jesus meant that the peace-church to attend is one hour's deep silence every Sunday, which may be at any time of the day, whenever one wishes to cultivate wisdom or bask in the daylight of the Sun of Wisdom and silence Sunday. Besides, doing certain things at certain times creates the willingness to perform those actions. The body assimilates food better when breakfast, lunch, and dinner are served regularly. To go to church regularly on Sundays develops the habit of thinking of religion or of God at least once a week.

Regular eating, regular efforts at business success, regular church-going, and regular meditation, develop specific habits. When material or Spiritual actions are regularly repeated, either daily or weekly, they are bound to create physiological, and consequently psychological habits. Most people are ruled by their bad material habits. Bad habits cannot be destroyed by mere willingness to eradicate them, but only by adopting the antidote of good habits.

Many people wonder why, in spite of their continued willingness to get rid of bad habits, they are still swept down that current. Willingness is not enough; one must act according to that willingness, not only once or twice, but repeatedly and continuously, then he can expect to get rid of bad habits. Hence, achievement lies in continued activity.

Knowing the above-mentioned law of habit which governs human nature, Jesus set the example by going to the synagogue on the Sabbath day. His sermon began with the reading of the Book of the Prophet Esaias. Jesus purposely read from the book of Esaias those portions which tallied with the kind of work He was destined to do.

“The Spirit of the Lord (or the Intelligent power of Christ Consciousness which directs all Creation) is upon my Soul.” When one unlike mortals feels that his Soul is united to the vast Spirit, he is baptized with inexhaustible Spiritual wisdom, and thus he can ably and fittingly preach the Gospel, or God's intuitive wisdom, to the poor or to humble recipient minds. God-saturated Souls alone can put together the hearts of men broken by material desires. When the human heart is broken by the false promises of material happiness, then nothing can satisfy that Soul except the matchless, unending Divine happiness.

As immortals, we are sent on earth for entertainment, but when we forget that and become enmeshed in material desires, we begin erroneously to expect unending happiness from perishable matter, and hence we become broken-hearted. Then God-known Souls can come to the rescue by reminding us of the unending happiness of Spirit, which remains hidden within our own Souls. God-empowered Souls, finding all power coming from Him, can, by the exercise of matter-controlling Divine will, remodel even the disorganized atoms in a blind man's eyes. Such Divine Souls can also heal the Spiritual blindness of individuals. God-perceiving Souls alone can free other Souls who are bruised by worries and by the faithlessness of so-called friends.

The purpose of Jesus in reading the above passages from the Book of Esaias was distinctly meant to show that His coming had already been prophesied. This shows that, in spite of the apparent invisibility and secret presence of God, He sometimes reveals His plans to the world through the meek but true words of prophets. Of course, charlatans use passages of the Scriptures to serve their own nefarious ends, but Jesus knew that God had asked His Saints to prophesy the coming of His beloved Son through the Scriptures. Jesus, in his meek way, declared through the words of Esaias that He was not baptized with water by man, but that He was bathed in the Ocean of Spirit, which inspired Him to be a God-chosen minister.

Some people read a little about the Scriptures, or get a Doctor of Divinity degree through the virtue of memorizing the Scriptures, and then they think that they are qualified to stand on a soap box or in a pulpit and pour out to others their imagination about scriptural Truths. Of course, such self-elected ministers do little good in the world. People let their unlive sermons in through one ear and out through the other, but when one who has been a devotee for years, meditates upon God, and succeeds in pleasing HIM, then He chooses that devoted Soul to bring others back to His mansion. These advanced Souls are saturated with the Spirit, intelligence, and power of God, and anyone physically, mentally, or spiritually sick coming in contact with them, becomes really healed.

In modern churches there is very little real beneficial relation between the minister and his church members. The minister, instead of giving holy sermons simply to create a vague devotion in the minds of his people, must be able to heal their physical, mental, and, above all, their Spiritual sickness of ignorance. Jesus, knowing the prevalence of false prophets, declared that He was not a self-elected, useless minister, but one



who had been taught by God and empowered by Him to heal His children. Besides, Jesus showed that God had declared in the Scriptures the coming of His special messenger, or Son.

The usual custom is to develop gradually from the physical and intellectual to the Spiritual, and then from the Spiritual people fall back to the physical again. During the material state of world civilization, when misery invades man, God from time to time sends His Christ-like devotees to redeem men. That is why some Souls are ordained to act as reformers chosen by God. That is why Jesus said: "THIS DAY IS THIS SCRIPTURE FULFILLED IN YOUR EARS," that is, in reality Jesus came to declare through His own words His coming, which had been written in the Scriptures a long time before. As God chooses a special manifestation of Himself to redeem the world from its special state of darkness, He also works through His devotees at all times to redeem His erring children.



Luke 4:22-27

## Who Was Jesus Before the Last Incarnation?

And all bear Him witness, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said: “Is not this Joseph’s son?” And he said unto them: “Ye will surely say unto Me this proverb: ‘Physician, heal Thyself; whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Thy country.’”

And he said: “Verily, I say unto you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months; when great famine was throughout all the land: but unto one of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman what was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet: and none of them was cleansed, save Naaman, the Syrian.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

All those who heard Jesus were amazed at the prophetic words which gently flowed out of His sacred mouth, and they perceived the ring of Truth in His words. And yet, while they were marveling at His profound utterances, they suddenly doubted in the mortal way and began to say: “Oh, how could the son of our Joseph, one of our fellow mortals, prophesy and heal all people?”

As soon as Jesus heard this, He began to furnish reasons for the behavior of prophets, who only act according to the will of God and not like ordinary self-willed mortals.

Jesus spoke to the people in the following way, revealing the grand secret of His past incarnation: “My dear people, you expect me to heal here just as I healed the sick at Capernaum, and you may wonder why, as a Spiritual physician, I can heal foreign people and cannot heal my own people in my own country. Do you realize that a prophet is not usually accepted in his own country? Acceptance signifies faith, and without the good soil of faith, no healing seed can be fruitfully sown by even a man of God. The Almighty subjects His prophets to his inculcated Spiritual laws. Since God gave independence to man, man could shut Divine power out of his life or bring God’s power to shine through the window of faith.

“Divine Healing is based on the law of reciprocity. Here in my own country the people are used to me. They know me as a mortal man and have consequently no faith in me, and without faith, neither God nor I could heal, because according to the Divine decree of the gift of free will, man can successfully resist Divine influences as well as the influence of all Saints. There can be no greater healer than Omnipresent God. He is trying to heal His mortal children from all troubles, but He cannot do so, because man shuts Him out.

“Besides, dear people, don’t you know that the Scriptures are full of illustrations where prophets like Elias, (Elijah), and my former Self as the prophet Eliseus, (Elisha) healed only those who spiritually deserved it and who were thus ordained by God to be healed?”

Jesus knew that John the Baptist in a former life had been Elias (Elijah), the Guru-Preceptor of His long past incarnation. One attracts Spiritual teachers when he is desirous of Spiritual training, but a Guru, or direct messenger of God, is sent only when the disciple is extremely determined to know God. God uses the speech, mind, and wisdom of the Guru to teach and redeem the disciple. Jesus mentioned Elias, (Elijah) and Eliseus, (Elisha) in the course of his talk to the people, because He knew that His former Guru-Preceptor, Elias, and Himself, as Eliseus, had been supremely endowed with healing powers, yet were allowed to heal only in accordance with Divine laws.

So Jesus said to the people: “I tell you of a truth,” that is, I tell you truthfully, as I remember from my past incarnation, that during the existence

of my Guru-Preceptor, Elias, due to the accumulated evils of bad actions of people in general, and their destructive vibrations, Heavenly laws controlling all forces of Nature were prevented from proper functioning, resulting in great famine. Elias and God were helpless and could not free the people because they exercised their own misguided free will to shut out the Divine powers.”

Thus Jesus said that famine resulted from the accumulated evils of people, and when they did not exercise their free choice to cultivate faith they had to go through the ravages of famine for three years and six months. Of course, their punishment was brought on by themselves, because their wrong actions and their vibrations disrupted the finer Astral forces which control the ultimate forces, climatic conditions, and so forth, which govern the earth.

Jesus was not speaking of fatalism, but He was emphasizing the idea that man must suffer the consequences of his actions if he misuses his free will, and if he does not invoke God’s aid when he is fallen. Thus, Jesus said that not even His past Guru Preceptor, Elias, nor God, could do anything to stop the famine in Israel. Jesus also pointed out that there were many needy widows in Israel at that time, but there was only one widow in Sarepta, a city of Sidon, who made enough Spiritual effort to deserve the God-ordained Spiritual aid from Elias.

Then, with a dramatic prophecy, He subtly and incidentally spoke of Himself as the Eliseus of yore, who was not ordained by the Spiritual laws to heal all the lepers who existed then, but only the one named Naaman. This reference of Eliseus is very significant. This Truth has remained veiled since Jesus spoke of Eliseus. This is the first time that this great Truth as to who Jesus was in the time of Elias has been revealed. Read about Eliseus, or Elisha, and you will find that he raised the dead and fed one hundred people with twenty loaves of bread, even as when he appeared as Jesus He raised Lazarus from the dead and fed five thousand people with five loaves.

In the above passage, Jesus said to the people: “My dear people, you do not understand how Divine laws operate, and that is why you ask me why I cannot heal in my own country. Now you know that it is nothing new, that when I, as the prophet Eliseus, raised one from the dead and healed one leper, but did not raise all the dead people, nor heal all the lepers in Israel in my time, I, Eliseus, did only what the Spiritual laws influenced me to do.”

In the above passages Jesus described the Divine law which works justly in secrecy and not in a sensational way before the curious-gazing eyes of people, and, incidentally, Jesus described His past as the prophet Eliseus, the disciple of Elias. It is for this reason that Jesus said that Elias had come already as John the Baptist. It is for this reason that he asked Elias to anoint Him and baptize Him with Spirit and with water.

A Guru-Preceptor, being ordained by God, is sent to the extremely anxious and genuinely seeking disciple. Then the Guru-Preceptor and the disciple enter into a vow of eternal, unconditional friendship and pledge to redeem each other and help each other until final emancipation is gained. Human friends part through misunderstanding, forgetfulness, and death. Divine friendship, though born in mutual Divine usefulness, still is unconditional and continues beyond the portals of death. Sometimes the Guru-Preceptor falls down, only to be lifted up by the advanced disciple, as Jesus uplifted the fallen Elias, or John the Baptist, who could only baptize with water. Most of the time, the Guru-Preceptor follows the disciple through all necessary incarnations, until he is redeemed.



Luke 4:28-30

## God Directs the Words of Prophets

“And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, and rose up and thrust Him out of the city, and led Him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast Him down headlong. But He, passing through the midst of them, went His way.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

Those who heard Jesus flawlessly expound the Divine Law were filled with wrath. The people wanted Jesus to operate the Divine Law of healing as if He were performing in a circus. They tempted Him to go against the will of the Father by saying: “Physician, heal Thyself; whatsoever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Thy country.” But Jesus cut them short by saying that Elijah and Eliseus were great prophets, who did not do what they wanted to do, but who did what God directed them to do. Even though they had healing power, and could heal thousands, yet they healed only those who were commanded by God to be healed.

The people were frustrated in their attempt to dislodge Jesus from his consciousness of right action and from exhibiting an open display of Divine Powers, so they became filled with wrath and thrust Jesus out of the city and led Him to the brow of a hill, to cast Him down headlong.

But, strange as are the decrees of God, Jesus was protected by Invisible Divine Power. God, being present in the Souls of all, secretly cast oblivion in the hearts of the adversaries of Jesus, who forgot to take the final step in the act of throwing Him down the hill.

“Now, when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, a city of Galilee, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zebulon and Nephtholim; that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying: ‘The land of Zebulon, and the land of Nephtholim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; the people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death, light is sprung up.’ [Mark 1:14-15 and Matthew 4:12-16] From that time Jesus began to preach the gospel of the kingdom of God, and to say:

‘Repent: the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the Gospel.’” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [Mark 1:15]

Jesus went to Galilee. Leaving Nazareth, He dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the seacoast at the border between Zabulon and Nephtholim, that the prophecy of Esaias, the prophet, might be fulfilled. Great prophets predict the coming of great Messiahs, who, from time to time, are sent to earth to relieve the misery of ignorance-inflicted mankind. God plans sometimes centuries ahead to send some of His liberated Saints to convert the people of the earth. So Esaias, or Isaiah, happened to be the mouthpiece of God to declare the coming of St. John and Jesus.

“For this is He that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying: ‘The voice of One crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Make His paths straight.’ “ Matthew, 3:3.

When the words of prophets come true, it should be a glaring testimony to the disbelievers, of the consciously initiated plan of God in the world. In spite of the mystery of events and strange happenings in the world, once in a while definite prophecies, veiled in complex language, are given to the world so that people may awaken to the realization of the subtle presence of God in the world.

Jesus consciously knew about the declaration of the prophet Esaias, and was divinely guided to go into Galilee to preach the gospel of the Lord. The people who sat in the darkness of ignorance beheld the great all-revealing light of Christ-Wisdom.

In the Hindu Scriptures we find mentioned that the Saints live in so-called darkness of material poverty and in the light of Eternal Wisdom, whereas most people are living in the imaginary light of material prosperity enveloped by the thick darkness of unspirituality. Here darkness signifies Spiritual ignorance. Just as a thousand years of darkness lodged in a mountain cave is dislodged by a lighted match, so the vibrations of the gathered ignorance of Ages in a city can be dispelled by a Saint who bears the invisible torch of God's wisdom.

There are two kinds of people, those who sit in the darkness of ignorance and love it, and there are those who become conscious of the gloom of ignorance and want to get out of it with the freeing light of wisdom. Through knowledge and subconscious memory in the Soul, the latter kind of people remember their experience with light and therefore abhor the pit of dark ignorance into which they find themselves fallen through their own wrong actions. So, in Galilee, only those people who realized their dark ignorance and were inwardly clamoring for the light of wisdom, felt the great wisdom vibrations of Jesus. Those also who were steeped in Spiritual ignorance and had been going through the mysterious death-like changes of life, were relieved of their inner gloom by the very presence of Jesus and His luminous wisdom. Usually Souls who are under the influence of this Cosmic dream behold life and shadowy death and all dualities, but when they wake up in the light of wisdom, they behold nothing but the oneness of God's Light.

Krishna, in the Hindu Scripture, the Bhagavad Gita, speaks of this earth as the aggregate of delusive mysteries and the ocean of affliction. In the Christian Bible Esaias speaks of the worldly people as sitting in the shadow of death or constantly changing temporal events of this earth. How could changeless, permanent happiness be wrung out of the imperfect earth surroundings, mixed with the changeful events of sorrow and joy, disease and health?

People are foolish to look for Paradise in earthly things. They should look for Paradise within themselves while living on earth. The earth conditions, being born of delusion, will always be more or less defective,



and that can only be overcome by the contact of the unchanging Light of Wisdom perceived in meditation. Jesus made people open their closed eyes of wisdom and dispel the self-created darkness, so that they perceived the Fountain of Light spring from the broken soil of darkness.

To fulfill the words of the prophecy, Jesus, from that time on, began to preach the gospel, or God's pronouncements or commandments, and the laws about the Kingdom of Heaven and its happiness. There is time for everything. The whole Cosmos is mathematically adjusted by God and His angels so that it runs like a clock. Esaias had prophesied the coming of Jesus in Galilee, and as soon as Jesus reached there, He felt the Divine Vibrations of the Cosmic Cycle and He put His heart and Soul into giving God to all. At this auspicious time, Jesus was filled with the Holy Ghost, or Cosmic Holy Vibration, and was baptized by the Spirit, and from then on He began to declare the Truth of God's Kingdom as He perceived it.

Many people look for the vast Kingdom of God at a point of space in the clouds, far away from the noxious, sinful vapors of the earth, but they forget that the vast eternal land of God's omniscience is near at hand. Whenever you close your eyes, you shut out the land of finitude and matter, and the land of Eternity is found to lie tier upon tier in endless vistas before the inner vision of man.

If man repents of his folly of constantly gazing at the finite Cosmos, and closes his eyes and constantly meditates, he perceives the land of Infinity within him. Repentance signifies seeing the folly of life in keeping the attention turned upon matter. The wise man repents because he knows the miseries resulting from the contact of matter. Then he makes up his mind and first believes in the Kingdom within, and then, by constant meditation, he perceives the Kingdom of Eternity lying close at hand within him.

First, one must believe in God's message as sent through His Saints, and repent of the folly of matter-attachment; then he must meditate ceaselessly and he will be sure to find the Kingdom of God within, which Kingdom he was looking for in the clouds.



Mark 1:15

## Fishers of Men, Part 1

“Repent: The time is fulfilled, and the Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent ye, and believe the Gospel.” (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

The above quotation needs further explanation, more than has been explained before. Just as motion picture directors plan the time for filming a picture, so also God and His Angels plan the time for the projection and materialization of certain great events in the Cosmos. “The time is fulfilled” signifies the Divine Plan of sending Jesus on earth at a definite time.

When the darkness of ignorance, like an inky mist, encircles the minds of mundane people at certain times, then God sends great Saints to redeem the sin-submerged Souls. Jesus knew He was empowered by Heaven to give Spiritual light to all men, so He said that the Kingdom of God, which lies very near, just behind the darkness of closed eyes, could easily be found through His help. The words “at hand” signify the nearness of Heaven within the consciousness of man, as well as the ease with which people could find God through the mediation of Jesus. “Repent ye” signifies the withdrawal of the principal attention from matter to God. Every Soul, upon Spiritual awakening, should repent of its folly of expecting permanent happiness from fleeting sense-pleasures. The poor taste for sorrow-producing evil should be displaced by the superior inclinations for joy-producing good.

Unless one is sorry about his evil ways, he cannot find pleasure in pursuing the path of purity. Repentance does not mean crying over spilled

milk constantly, but it means to so impregnate the mind with the consciousness of the after-effects of evil that one will automatically shrink from even the thought of evil deeds, not to speak of evil deeds themselves. Unless the mind learns to abhor evil actions, it is very difficult to keep it proof against the subtle allurements of temptation. One must repent, not only of following unprofitable ways of living, but one must desist from all evil actions after every repentance.

To steal during the week and repent on Sundays would not provide remission from the evils of theft. If one finds that he has been a thief for a week, he must repent of his wicked deeds on the eighth day and, after his repentance, he must forever relinquish the habit of stealing. Repentance is not a cure for the results of evil actions. It serves only to keep the mind consciously acquainted with the results of evil deeds, with the hope of keeping it from repeating evil experiences. Many people, who think repentance is a cure for evil habits, keep repenting after each evil deed, expecting thereby to receive Divine amnesty from sin. Jesus exhorted the people, saying that the time to receive Divine Glory was within their easy reach, and that they should first repent of their evil ways and not blindly enjoy them as before.

After repentance, it is necessary to believe in the Gospel, or “God’s spell,” or God’s pronouncement of Truth, through the meditative intuition of the devotee. Belief is that conditional receptive attitude of mind preceding an experience necessary to cognize it. If one refuses to believe in a thing long enough to experiment with it, he cannot possibly know about it. If a man is thirsty and is advised to quench his thirst with the water from a nearby good well, he must believe in the water in that well, and must make the effort to go to it before he can satisfy the demands of his thirst. But if a thirsty man questions the purity of the water in the good well the minute he hears about it, there is no way of showing him the good quality of the water in that well.

Therefore, Jesus emphasizes the fact that each Truth-seeking Soul must repent of the foolishness of following unsatisfying material ways of living, and must act at a suitable time to believe, not in imaginary things, but in the Truths experienced by Him through God.

To be an Orthodox unquestioning believer in any Spiritual doctrine, without the scrutiny of experimentation, makes one ossified with dogmatism. Belief should not be wasted on false doctrines, but should be

exercised only on the Truth poured out to man through the authority of Saints.

Jesus did not ask the people to believe anything, or any false doctrines, as false prophets do, but He asked His people to keep faith only in Divine Revelation, with the assurance that if the people kept on unceasingly believing in, and hence concentrating upon, the Gospel, they would surely and ultimately come to experience the truths revealed in it.

“And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon, called Peter, and Andrew, his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And he saith unto them:

‘Follow Me, and I will make you to become Fishers of Men.’”  
(“Walks and Words of Jesus,” by Rev. M.N. Olmsted) [Mark 1:16-17 and Matthew 4:18-19]

And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, beheld the two brothers casting a net to catch fish in the sea. And Jesus, turning toward them, told them what He thought about fishing, and that He wanted them to learn about fishing for Souls. All Masters teach in parables, and Jesus thought, like a Hindu Master thought, when he said: “O Divine Mother, passing by the sea of my consciousness, I behold my Ego catching the small bony fishes of material objects, such as name and fame. Bless me so that I may see, instead, the way to catch, with my net of devotion, the large fishes of Divine Truth-seeking Souls swimming in the sea of my unruffled consciousness.”

It is common to catch fish in the sea for one’s own paltry self, but to catch Truth-seeking Souls in the net of Heavenly devotion, in order to present them to God, is a great achievement. To catch fish and eat them may help to appease physical hunger, but it is not so good for the fish. To catch Souls in the net of one’s own Truth-conviction and bring them to God, brings harm to no one. On the contrary, it brings the Divine blessing for the Soul-fisherman, and it also eventually liberates the fishers of Souls. Blessed are those who fish for Souls, for that is the highest Spiritual activity on earth.

To seek one’s own salvation and not benefit others by it is extreme selfishness. But to seek salvation for yourself so that ultimate freedom may be shared with others is Divine. To try to bring salvation to others (like some missionaries in foreign lands do) without first having it yourself is

impossible. You can give only what you have and nothing else. In order to give Spiritual power, you must first acquire the power yourself.

God loves to see a son consciously seek Him, but He is extremely pleased when He finds that son exhorting another son to come unto Him. When a spirit-bound, truant Soul inspires another Spiritual fugitive to return to God, that is considered the highest human duty.

In all the churches in the world ministers should not concentrate upon catching only materially rich Souls and bringing them into the fold to be devoured by the tiger of church dogma. All religious teachers should seek to convert Souls, not for their money, nor for the purpose of swelling the number of church members, but only for bringing them to the all-freeing Presence of God. The commercial Spiritual teacher uses his students to further his own ends, while the true Spiritual teacher uses the student's attention to bring him unto God.



Mark 1:17

## Fishers of Men, Part 2

“Follow me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.”  
 (“Walks and Words of Jesus,” p.36, by Rev. M.N. Olmsted)

A person who learns to catch fish provides himself and others with food. The fish can be caught by fishermen with hook and bait, or with nets. In order to become a Spiritual fisherman, one must be acquainted with the profits and with the art of Spiritual fishing. Wise men consider this world an ocean of delusion, in which the human fish are swimming, constantly chased by the sharks of the senses.

Satan has cast upon all human amphibians his colossal dragnet of degrading desires, and is pulling them to the shores of destruction. God wants His true supermen to learn the art of casting the net of personal magnetism in order to catch the fishes of error-bound human Souls, and to bring them to Him. All the human fishes brought alive, with wisdom, into God’s presence, are specially preserved and protected in the blue waters of immortality. When, through the help of wise men, the Soul-fishes are transferred from the brine of material desires to the sweet waters of Bliss, they bring great rejoicing to the Great Giver of Life.

To furnish food to the hungry is good, but to afford inner strength to the mentally weak is greater, and to impart all-freeing wisdom to the Soul-bewildered is of supreme consequence. Heaven is the permanent panacea for all human afflictions; material or mental help is only transitory consolation for human embroilments.

The givers of food and mental power enrich themselves by the good will of the temporarily benefited, but the givers of Soul-food benefit themselves throughout eternity as well as the receiver of the Divine Manna. The effect of food and mental power wears off more or less in time, but the marks of wisdom impinged upon the Soul can seldom be erased. That is why Jesus urged His disciples to be the fishers of Souls, so that they might catch the human fishes from the waters of delusion and let them loose in the ever-living waters of God's peace.

The gift of food presupposes its possession, so also wisdom can only be showered upon others by those who possess it. Divine wisdom can never be imparted to one who has not first acquired it himself by constant effort and unending vigilance. One must ceaselessly garner the seeds of wisdom from the fields of inner peace. Then he can sow them in the tracts of other Souls. Jesus realized that anyone willing to be a fisher of Souls must intensely spiritualize himself first. Later on, in the sermon on the Mount, Jesus is known to have said: *"Thou hypocrite! Cast out first the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to pull out the mote that is in thy brother's eye."* [Matthew 7:5]

It must be strictly remembered that one can be a fisher of men provided he has first fished himself out of the ocean of ignorance, and offered himself unto God. The Heavenly Father wants to see His little fishers of human children first get themselves out of the net of Satanic delusion and destruction. It seems that a great tug-of-war is going on between the Divine forces and the forces of depravity, over the possession of the human Soul. No one knows why peace, joy, Divine Bliss, forgiveness, self-control, unselfishness, and so forth, stimulate our good habits to produce lasting happiness, and pull us toward emancipation, and, on the other side, disquietude, sorrow, sense-bliss, revengefulness, temptation, and selfishness inflame our bad habits to lead us to the transitory happiness of bondage and trouble. No one can say why strenuous self-control produces ultimate happiness, and momentarily pleasurable indulgence brings eventual unhappiness.

In the first stage of Spiritual progress, a clear line of demarcation must be established between good and evil in order that the latter may be superseded by the former. Can anyone tell why evil is established within us and made so attractive that we fall into its snare? That is why it is easy for millions of people to lean toward evil actions, evil habits, and evil tendencies. Only a few people, who have compared the results of evil

experiences with the outcome of good experiences, have invariably come to the conclusion that evil, though attractive in the beginning, really is a loathsome harbinger of acute suffering, and virtue, though difficult to pursue in the beginning, is the ambassador of invariable ultimate good.

Evil brings temporary happiness followed by unhappiness; good causes trouble before it is born, but always insures lasting happiness afterward. Hysterical moralists urge their followers to discard evil as nothing but ugly and sorrowful, but when some of their followers taste the momentarily intoxicating comfort of temptation, they become disillusioned and dismiss the fear of evil and pursue its ways until it appears in its true colors long afterward. When the mask of attractiveness is cast off, evil appears as nothing but a ravenous wolf of destruction.

It is better for teachers to tell the truth that evil is very attractive in the beginning, like poisoned honey, sweet to the lips but deathly bitter in the stomach. Evil must be forsaken because it gives a little pleasure first, and then suddenly throws you into the catacombs of unending sorrow. Good may lead you through a difficult trail but always brings you to Elysium in the end. One should abhor the thought of stealing a small sum of money, even though it would fulfill a great need; one should wait for hard-earned large sums of money. So, also, one should forsake the trouble producing little happiness of evil for the lasting happiness of good, which is acquired only through great urge and labor. This is the ultimate solution which the thinker comes to why good is preferable to evil.

Smoking burns the breast of the person who first starts to smoke, but after some time he enjoys a smoke and becomes very uncomfortable without it. Later, when he is already an inveterate smoker and begins to accurately analyze the effect of smoking on his health and mind, he tries to forsake the habit, but most of the time he becomes unsuccessful in doing so. Evil has a gripping effect. So have virtuous ways.

When evil arrives first in a person's life, it takes advantage of that good situation and deludes its victim with the consciousness of its supreme attractiveness. This blinds that person to the superior attraction of the good and virtuous way. Many people are so steeped in error that they enter the grave without ever realizing the unhappiness in evil. Their evolution is delayed and they have to go on progressing in evil until they come to a rude awakening.



So, before evil overtakes and hypnotizes you and others, it is better that you fish yourself and others out of the poisoned waters of evil and plunge into the ocean of immortality, there to swim forever on the waves of endless Blessedness.